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San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Citizens' Advisory Committee
Power Subcommittee

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 13, 2024
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
525 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd Floor Tuolumne Conference Room

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Mission: The Power Subcommittee shall review power generation and transmission system reliability and improvement programs, including but not limited to facilities siting and alternatives energy programs, as well as other relevant plans, programs, and policies (Admin. Code Article XV, Sections 5.140 - 5.142).

Members

Chair Emily Algire (D5)	Barklee Sanders (D6)	Moisés García (D9)
Jodi Soboll (M- Eng./Fin.)	Sally Chen (D3)	

D = District Supervisor appointed, M = Mayor appointed, B = Board President appointed

Staff Liaisons: Lexus Moncrease, Sharon Liu-Bettencourt
Staff Email for Public Comment: cac@sfwater.org

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. **Call to order and roll call**

   Members present at roll call: Sanders*, Garcia, Soboll and Chen

   Members absent: Algire

2. **Approve December 12, 2023 Minutes**

   Motion was made (Soboll) and seconded (Chen) to approve the December 12, 2023 minutes.

   Approved without objection.

Public Comment: None

3. **Report from the Chair**
    - Welcome members, staff, and the public
        - Chair Algire is absent, Member Garcia is stepping in as chair
    - Ohlone Tribal Land Acknowledgement

Public Comment: None

4. **Public Comment: Members of the public may address the Committee on matters that are within the Committee's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda (*2 minutes per speaker*)**

Public Comment: None

5. **Presentation and Discussion:** Overview of Power Supply, Julia Olguin, SFPUC Director of Origination and Power Supply, Michael Hyam, Director of CleanPowerSF

Presentation

- Overview of Power Supply
- San Francisco is an electricity generator and buyer
- Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)
- Hetch Hetchy Water & Power System
- Hetch Hetchy Power is San Francisco's local publicly owned electric utility
- Hetch Hetchy Power – typical annual energy supply and demand
- Hetch Hetchy Power's 2023 IRP identified a new long-term power supply need starting in 2033
- Hetch Hetchy Power System (future state, 2035)
- CleanPowerSF is San Francisco's community choice aggregation (CCA) program
- CleanPowerSF's last IRP was completed in 2022
- Key considerations in negotiation of power purchase agreements (PPAs)
- Benefits of renewable power purchase agreements

Discussion

- **Member Soboll** asked if excess power sales due to excess power offsets customer cost.

  Staff Olguin responded that excess power sales generate revenue.

  Member Soboll asked if that means the revenue can be used for whatever costs are needed at the time.

  Staff Hyams responded and confirmed this is true. He added that they include forecasts power sales and the historical record of it. However, they don't know if the next year is going to be a drought year, wet year or normal year and sales vary within that bound. In their financial plan, they usually assume normal generation. Revenue through sales related to normal generation are in the budget as well as the 10-year financial plans. Those benefits are realized by rate payers.

  Member Soboll asked if this benefit is realized over time.

Staff Olguin responded that is correct.

Member Soboll asked if that is because the benefits are part of long-term calculations.

Staff Hyams responded that there are short term benefits too, they just don't set rates every month and they set them for every fiscal year. Less sales could require dipping into the reserve. So, these benefits end up reflected over time.

Member Soboll stated that she is not saying all excess revenue should go directly to the rate payer. However, she is wondering if there is a standard list of things the excess revenue might go too and if there is a priority list. For example, maybe there is a certain reserve amount for dry years and once that's done, the excess revenue can be spent on projects.

Staff Hyams commented that they have a lot of wish lists and whenever any enterprise generates excess net revenue in a fiscal year, typically that net revenue goes to fund balance and goes towards years when costs exceed revenue. If there are a series of strong years, it would affect rate changes and the 10-year plan. It would also free up more funds to do delayed capital work.

Staff Olguin added that this is why it's so important to look at weather-based forecasts. This way they can know what Hetch Hetchy, a very weather based faciality can generate.

Member Soboll commented that she felt the past few years have shown that weather forecasting is in a new frontier and must be making things difficult.

Staff Olguin responded that climate change and microclimates in San Francisco is one of their challenges.

- **Member Soboll** commented that her and Member Chen are relatively new to the committee so she might be asking questions she should already know the answer to. She asked when looking at PPAs for Clean Power as opposed to the SFPUC taking over ownership of the renewable power, how does this differ from SFPUC's relationship and contracts with PG&E.

  Staff Olguin responded that there is a solicitation process for all PPAs determination is made based of their portfolio and the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) for the next 10-20 years. Once they decide what they need for their portfolio moving forward, they use the IRP as a roadmap and send out solicitation to counter parties in the industry such as NextEra or Morgan Stanley. They do an extensive process that includes scoring in order to get to a short list of counterparties. PG&E are not really involved in PPAs, they are sidetracked and more of a transmission provider. Whereas they are looking for someone who can provide megawatts, resource adequacy, GHG and RPS attributes.

  Staff Hyams added that PG&E is responsible for operating the local distribution system and high voltage transmission lines. Some of those transmission lines, such as the Trans Bay Cable is operated by a third party, but all those lines are under the operation system of the California

ISO. The ISO's job is to provide open access to the transmission system and generators. Those generators are the principal generators used by CleanPowerSF in a very competitive marketplace of power generation. Staff Olguin identified some of the active counter parties, however there are many companies that own power plants and can deliver electricity to the California grid. One of the things done in solicitation, is that they leverage their buying power to seek offers from developers to build new capacity. This way, they can get more renewable energy on the grid. They offer developers contracts in exchange for building renewable energy plants. They use a very standard contract that helps developers raise capital to build new plants. The standard contract also helps the city address conflicts that might emerge overtime.

Member Garcia commented that CleanPowerSF is part of a joint power authority which supports power from multiple CCAs.

- **Member Chen** commented that between the 2021 actuals and the 2035 estimates, it looked like the goal was to get to 50% solar. This looks like a substantial change from previous majority hydro power actuals. What are the challenges of this effort?

  Staff Olguin responded that 50% solar is a lot of solar for the portfolio. They are attempting to diversify their energy portfolio. California has so much sun, it makes sense to attempt to capitalize on that to help manage summer peaks. San Francisco has the unique challenge of also having winter peaks. In perfect world the portfolio in 2035 would include 14% geothermal because it's a base load profile. California wind also has a higher capacity during spring and summer months. They are also looking at New Mexico winds which has a higher capacity during winter times. There is such a mixture of different technology that they need to manage. They also need to make sure there is enough battery to manager excess solar energy. There must be co-located battery to keep the grid balanced. They're using their IRP to get through the scaling approach to figure out what they need. They are very dependent on the technology and what they are offered by energy providers. They spend a lot of time strategizing.

- **Member Garcia** asked if the 2035 solar also included storage.

  Staff Olguin responded that it includes storage and co-located storage and there is no battery storage though in a lot of this.

  Staff Hyams commented that batteries don't produce energy and its capacity that allows you to shift energy from one time to another. He believes the chart we should be focused on is the source of energy in the portfolio that was either delivered to customers in 2021 or anticipated by 2035.

  Member Garcia responded that he assumes solar energy when available.

  Staff Hyams responded that there are over 100 megawatts of storage operating in the portfolio and another 200 megawatts of storage in development. They presented the 2021 power content; the website also has the 2022 power content. He believes solar is about 25% in 2022 and that number will continue to increase. Close to 50% of the portfolio is

already under contract, many solar projects will become operational over the next couple of years.

- **Member Garcia** asked if the hydro referred to in the portfolio is Hetch Hetchy or a different source.

  Staff Olguin confirmed it's both.

  Member Garcia commented that Hetch Hetchy and CleanPowerSF are separate programs.

  Staff Olguin said hydro energy in the portfolio from Hetchy Hetchy would be energy that Hetch Hetchy sells to CleanPowerSF.

  Staff Hyams said that even though we are one city, one utility and one power enterprise, we have two different power programs with two different sets of rate payers. Hetch Hetchy power is first available to Hetch Hetchy customers and only available to other customers in the case of excess. They are also subject to the Raker Act. CleanPowerSF purchases from both Hetch Hetchy and other power systems.

- **Member Sanders** stated that his question is around Treasure Island. He said that there are two different power providers and asked if there is access to CleanPowerSF for the new developments in Treasure Island?

  Staff Olguin responded that new developments in Treasure Island is part of Hetch Hetchy, not CleanPowerSF.

  Member Sanders asked if that infrastructure is owned by Hetch Hetchy.

  Staff Olguin responded that the supply source is third party and not Hetch Hetchy generation systems. However, the load and the program they can participate in is the Hetch Hetchy system.

  Staff Hyams said that he believes part of the question is on the distribution system on Treasure Island. The infrastructure on Treasure Island is evolving as the redevelopment process unfolds. The legacy infrastructure that transferred from the Navy to the City is the TITA system. Currently, they are operating that system on behalf of TITA. The new system developed is operated by Hetch Hetchy.

  Member Sanders commented that from his understanding, TIDA owns the power grids in the Treasure Island. He asked is staff is saying that Hetch Hetchy actually owns the power grids.

  Staff Olguin responded that the new development loads that comes online at Treasure Island is part of the Hetchy Hetchy program.

  Member Sanders asked if the current loads are provided by PG&E.

  Staff Hyams responded that's not true. Hetch Hetchy Power is the current operator. He said that this question goes a bit out of his comfort zone as his part of the organization is not responsible for the transmission and distribution system. However, he believes there is an MOU with TIDA for the SFPUC to operate the electric distribution system. Ultimately, Hetch

Hetchy and CleanPowerSF are all part of SFPUC. Hetch Hetchy Power is one of SFPUC's Power Systems. Hetch Hetchy Power operates transmission and distribution equipment while CleanPowerSF is a CCA that is responsible slowly for sourcing of the power. PG&E delivers electrons on of CleanPowerSF to retail distribution customers of PG&E on behalf of CleanPowerSF. He states that TIDA owns the assets for distribution on Treasure Island and SFPUC is operating on behalf of TIDA. However, as we build new equipment, new portions of the electricity grid, the SFPUC assumes ownership of the newly built equipment.

Staff Olguin states that this is correct, SFPUC owns newly built portions of the grid.

Member Sanders asked if this meant the general IRP does not include Treasure Island.

Staff Olguin stated this is incorrect as they do include the load portion of Treasure Island for Hetch Hetchy.

Staff Hyams clarifies that this means the demand portion. He further stated that they are here as part of the team within the power enterprise that sources electrons that are used by customers. Being responsible for the load, means being responsible for the demand of the customers. The team makes sure that there's enough power either purchased or generated to meet the forecasted supply on the grid.

Member Sanders asked if this meant that the team oversees infrastructure and not approving stuff on the Treasure Island. So, is their team basically in charge of making sure there's enough gas in the tank in a way?

Staff Olguin states this is an excellent comparison. They are not in charge of distribution but rather making sure there's enough gas in the tank to start the car, referring to having enough power for all rate payers.

Member Garcia commented that it's helpful for the committee to be walked through the differences between distribution and generation and the differences between Hetch Hetchy and CleanPowerSf. There is a lot of complexity in the power system.

- **Member Soboll** said she had a question regarding 2021 versus 2035 but that she wanted to make sure she had an analogy in her head that is correct to solidify her understanding. If someone in San Francisco has a house with solar panels, those solar panels are not actually providing the electricity that generates their house, those electrons instead go back into the circulating grid. Therefore, when you look at the full demand and load, there would be some percentage that's Hetch Hetchy and some percentage that includes solar. In her mind, this is analogy is that CleanPowerSf is the house, there's power coming into the grid but it's using the same transmission and distribution system as Hetch Hetchy. This way when we look at the overall demand and load, we're really looking at where the electrons are coming from. Does she have the right understanding?

  Staff Hyams responded and said that Member Soboll gave a good description but that he has some clarifying points for her. The way the

home with solar panels works is that the solar energy generated by the solar panels for the home would supply the home first. If the solar is generating more power than the house can use, than the house has demand at that moment and the additional electrons would than flow back into the grid. The flow back onto the grid is metered and the customer is than compensated for that, the idea is that customers who generate excess power have meters that can run backwards as well. He states that Member Soboll is correct that the electrons would than move back onto the grid and get co-mingled with the other electrons and which source of solar energy the electrons come from would than become indistinguishable. The analogy that is historically used to talk through this concept is the bathtub analogy, you put warm water and cold water into the bathtub to get the right temperature, but you wouldn't be able to go back and pull out a cold-water molecule and that's analogous to how the PowerGrid works as well. The fundamental concept behind CleanPowerSF is to use their buying power to go into the market and change the mix of the plants that are supplying San Francisco's electricity in favor of green energy. San Francisco is small but mighty, in a big state with lots of electric demands, luckily for San Francisco, there are other communities who are focusing on the same goal. Overtime, this clean energy buyer power will result in new clean energy sources being constructed.

- **Member Soboll** wanted to ask a question about diversifying the power portfolio. She sees that Hetch Hetchy can already provide all the power San Francisco needs, why does San Francisco need anything else? She believes this is because Hetch Hetchy us a variable source and becoming more variable in the long term. As a result, San Francisco needs to diversify their power portfolio to meet total power demands under many different scenarios. Her question is given that the presentation gives the 2021 actuals and the 2035 estimates in percentages, are the total megawatts being looked at for both years the same.

  Staff Olguin responded that the answer is no because they have load growth going forward. The long data forecast looks at electrification. As EV cars and electricity ran appliances become more popular and widely used, electricity demand will increase. It is not a 1 for 1 ratio, the electricity load in 2035 will be significantly higher compared to 2021.

- **Member Soboll** asked for an estimate of the required electricity load for 2035.

  Staff Olguin said that she does not know the number off the top of her head but that she's happy to send it to Member Soboll.

  Member Soboll asked if they could give a general estimate. If 380 is the amount of electricity used for 2021, is the estimate in 2035 double? Perhaps 10 time the amount?

  Staff Hyams responded that he wants to add a couple points of clarification, he further states that the slides do not have the answer to Member Soboll's question. At the end of presentation, there are some links. One of the links is to CleanPowerSF's IRP from 2022. There is a lot of information there as it goes through the entire analysis, Member Soboll should be able to get a sense of the energy scale they're discussing in either megawatt or gigawatt hours. There is also analysis for several

different scenarios, this gives a sense into how uncertain n the future demand of electricity in San Francisco is. They anticipate demand going up as electrification happens, and they have a range, but they don't know exactly how fast and by how much the electricity demand will go up. The Hetch Hetchy IRP is also linked and has similar figures. However, he wants to clarify that the Hetch Hetchy hydro system does not actually generate enough electricity for all of San Francisco. The chart they presented to the committee is just the Hetch Hetchy power program which serves mostly municipal customer but also Treasure Island, Yerba Buena Island and the redevelopment site within the city. The total usage per year of Hetch Hetchy customers in San Francisco is around 16-18% of San Francisco's total. CleanPowerSF's total annual energy demand is about 3 times that number, so CleanPowerSF is procuring energy for a much larger demand. The city is in the process of trying to acquire the local distribution system for power. If that were to occur, the 2 portfolios would essentially be merged and could be optimized as one portfolio. If this were to happen, it would include Hetch Hetchy as well as all the sources of power acquired by CleanPowerSF.

Member Soboll asked if they currently used PG&E for transmission?

Staff Hyams responded that they do.

- **Member Garcia** asked if they could expand on slide 7 which states that they have identified and need to identify new sources of power since 2023, when they first saw a need to find new sources of power to keep up with demand.

  Staff Olguin asked if this is in relation to Hetch Hetchy.

  Member Garcia responded that it is.

  Staff Olguin said that the IRP and the sources she gave at the end give really good information on this question. She asked the committee to please email her if they have other questions after reading through the IRP and the rest of the additional information. They are looking at a mix of different generation starting in 2033. They looked at three or four different scenarios which all involve wind, solar, battery and co-location. However, it is difficult to know what the technology for clean power and the need for energy will be in 2033. In slide 8, they presented the schematic and stated the new renewable sources they are hoping to have online by 2033. They are looking at wind, battery and solar to the tune of 150 megawatts. In the next couple of years, they will be planning and sending out solicitations to try and procure that amount of new energy.

- **Member Soboll** said that we also receive water supply from Hetch Hetchy and it seems to her water is a much more difficult resource to obtain because there aren't alternatives. She wanted to know if the fact that the water is being moved through these power plants have a significant impact for how much water gets to San Francisco for use.

  Staff Olguin responds that water comes first and they meet San Francisco's need for water before we generate electricity.

Member Soboll asked if that water is in different lines than what goes to electricity generation?

Staff Olguin responded that it uses the same line. She goes back to slide 4 and shows the committee how the water moves through the reservoir all the way down the lake. The water generates electricity through the turbines in the powerhouses along the lake.

Member Soboll states that she is trying to figure out if there is significant water loss. Through turning the turbines to generate electricity.

Staff Olguin states the water loss is not significant.

Member Soboll states that Hetch Hetchy is on a high elevation, so therefore a lot of this generation uses gravity.

- **Member Chen** stated she had a question she wanted to ask to check her math. CleanPowerSF's last IRP was in 2022, so the next one will be in 2024. Meanwhile, Hetch Hetchy's last IRP was in 2023, which means the next one will be in 2028. Is that correct?

  Staff Olguin confirmed that is correct. They are currently working on CleanPowerSF's 2024 IRP.

- **Member Soboll** asked if their assumptions and predictions go through any sort of a public review.

  Staff Hyams wanted to clarify if Member Soboll is asking if the assumption of the IRP goes through public review.

  Member Soboll responded that is correct.

  Staff Hyams responded that there is an enormous number of assumptions in the IRP. CleanPowerSF is subject to regulation by the California Public Utilities Commission for its IRP. A lot of the assumptions CleanPowerSF uses for their IRP are required and defined already. For example, for the purposes of the IRP the load forecast in set by the California Public utilities Commission and then required for use by CleanPowerSF and the development of its integrated resources plan.

  Member Soboll asked if she could give an example. She said that a couple months ago, she attended the water meeting where they presented their long-term plan. In water's long-term plan, they project rates and how it will increase based on factors such as population growth or usage. The water committee chair and the public asked questions regarding how for the past few years water usage has gone down and give that decrease, why does the plan predict an increase in water usage. She is wondering how CleanPowerSF incorporate public comments when making their assumptions.

  Staff Hyams responded that they are working on the IRP for 2024, using their 2022 IRP as a model. When they made the 2022 IRP, they consulted various stakeholders, including the power committee to talk through how they're approaching the IRP including portfolio designs. They do attempt to create opportunities for public input. One of the issues is that some of the

assumptions come at different times because of the California Public Utilities Commission and when they send out their required assumptions. In 2022, they didn't get that information until July for a plan that is due in November. They are happy to get input from the power committee for the IRP.

Member Soboll said that it might be good for CleanPowerSF to come back to the power committee when they are actively working on the IRP and show the committee the process. The committee is looking to support in any way they can.

- Member Garcia suggested that it is difficult to separate Hetch Hetchy and CleanPowerSF. In slides 7 and 10, it would have been helpful to show side by sides for both Hetch Hetchy and CleanPowerSF. He states it would have been helpful for clarity.

Public Comment: None

6. Staff report

- There will be a Full CAC next week and a Water CAC Subcommittee meeting on the April 25..

Public Comment: None

7. Future Agenda Items and Resolutions

- IEPR from the CEC
- TI Resolution Report back
- Bayview Power
- Emergency Preparedness
- Power Enterprise Training
- Legislative Update – Federal and State
- Electrification: San Francisco Climate Action Plan
- Municipalization: Interconnection, FERC Order 568, CCSF Purchase Offer
- Electric Rates & Equity
- Power Enterprise Residential & Commercial Power Programs: Heat Pumps, CAP
- California Community Choice Aggregation Residential & Commercial Power Programs
- Redevelopment Projects: Hunter's Point Shipyard & Treasure Island
- Time-of-Use Rates Update
- Reliability: Wildfires and Public Safety Power Shutoffs

Adopted Resolutions for Follow Up

- Resolution Recommending that the SFPUC Commission Reverses its Position on the "Not to Exceed Rates" for CleanPowerSF, Move Forward with this Important Program, and Allow Staff to Move Forward with its Launch **adopted September 16, 2014**
- Resolution in Support of SB 612 Electrical Corporations and other Load-Serving Entities **adopted on July 20, 2021**
- Resolution in Supporting of the Transition of CleanPowerSF Residential Customers to Time-of-Use Rates **adopted on July 20, 2021'**

Public Comment: None

8. **Announcements/Comments** Visit www.sfpuc.org/cac for confirmation of the next scheduled meeting, agenda, and materials.

Public Comment: None

9. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 6:52pm

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