



SAN MATEO COUNTY
**Sustainability
Department**

SMC Energy Watch Program and Contract Extension

**Presentation to the RMCP
Committee**

July 16, 2025



Agenda



- SMCEW Background
 - History
 - Sectors served
 - Programmatic outcomes
- SMCEW Contracting
 - Program cycles + budget
 - Timeline for contracting



History of SMC Energy Watch

A collaborative program from the beginning...

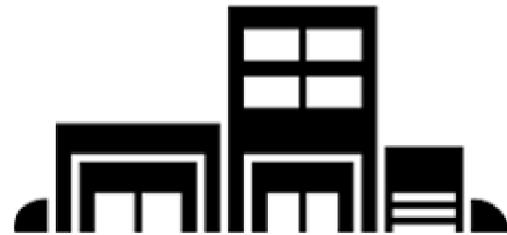


- Launched in 2009
- Local Government Partnership between C/CAG and PG&E, administered by San Mateo County Sustainability Department
- Funded jointly by the California Public Utilities Commission, Peninsula Clean Energy, C/CAG, and the County
- Designed to advance energy efficiency and emissions reductions actions countywide

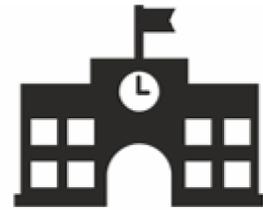




Who We Can Serve: “Hard-to-Reach” Customers



Local Governments &
Special Districts



K-12 Public
School Districts



Small Businesses

Plus:



Climate Collaborative

What We Do:

Impel Project Implementation

- Help customers identify opportunities to save energy and money
- Make referrals to get customers to participate in PG&E programs to implement decarbonization projects.

Build “Pipeline” of Future Projects

- Stimulate demand for future projects and provide input to PG&E to inform program offerings.
- Increase community and industry understanding and awareness about efficiency and decarbonization.
 - Host working groups
 - Support policy development
 - Conduct research
 - Implement pilots

Local Governments & Special Districts



Program Summary

- Collaborate with partners to support public agencies to **identify energy efficiency and electrification projects**
- **Install heat pump water heaters** at little to no cost when replacing methane-powered water heaters
- Host quarterly **Facilities Working Group**
- Work with BayREN public programs on hosting in-person cross regional **staff training**



Recent Accomplishments

- **Methane gas catalogs** completed for buildings at 7 jurisdictions
- Updated **benchmarking** for 7+ buildings to meet SB 48 mandates

San Mateo County Outcomes 2020-2024*

75+ heat pump measures installed at 11 jurisdictions

\$2.1M+ value of projects

1,047,160 kWh saved

219,547 therms saved



K-12 Public Schools



Partnership with SMC Office of Education (SMCOE), Peninsula Clean Energy, and PG&E to help school districts identify energy efficiency and electrification opportunities



Accomplishments

- **Methane gas catalogs** completed for 70% of schools in county
- Updated **benchmarking** for 20 districts to meet AB 802 mandates

On-going

- Sharing findings with chief business officers and superintendents
- Analyzing results of methane gas cataloging to find project opportunities
- Developing a **cohort model** for assisting districts for advancing decarbonization projects

Small Businesses



Partnership with El Concilio

- Door-to-door outreach to small businesses by Promotoras to connect them with PG&E programs
- Promote other programs in “Small Business Resource Center”

Recent Accomplishments

- 33 businesses referred to PG&E Simplified Savings program
- Launched Commercial Kitchen Electrification Cost Study: 10 Commercial Kitchens

Coming in 2026-27

- Additional community partners
- Expanded referrals:
 - Healthcare Energy Fitness Initiative program (HEFI)
 - Advanced Energy Program (AEP)





Update: Commercial kitchen cost study

Progress to date

- Site visits to 4 restaurants **completed**
- Working to lock in 4 more restaurants

Seeking 2 institutional kitchens

- Identifying school kitchens via SMCOE
- Seeking a community center via city contacts



Recent RICAPS Climate Collaborative Accomplishments: Technical Support



- Identified decarbonization opportunities by scanning **Capital Improvement Plans** for all jurisdictions
- Developed **GHG Inventories** for all cities + countywide inventory
- Developed **new building measure quantification tools**
- Led 4 cities in submitting **collaborative application** to secure **~\$2.5M** in **grant funding** for EV charging
- Launched **3 Implementation Groups**: modeshift, building electrification, EV infrastructure

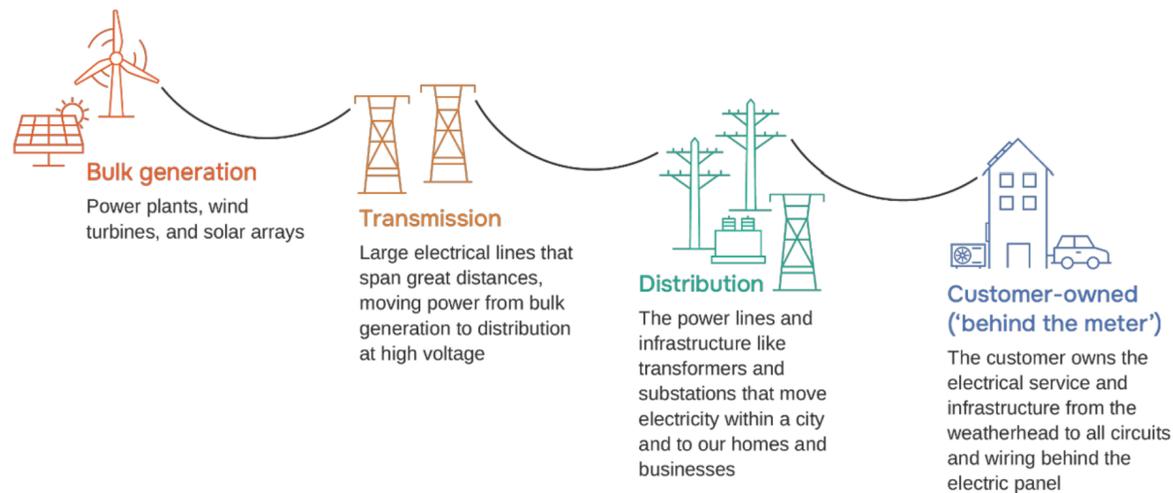


Recent RICAPS Climate Collaborative Accomplishments: Policy & Comms Support



How Does the Electric Grid Work?

There are three parts to what we cumulatively call the “grid” or the infrastructure that brings electricity to our homes and businesses.¹ These components are the bulk generation (power plants), transmission lines (long range movement of electricity), and local distribution system (the wires in your neighborhood).



Source: PG&E, as adapted by the County of San Mateo

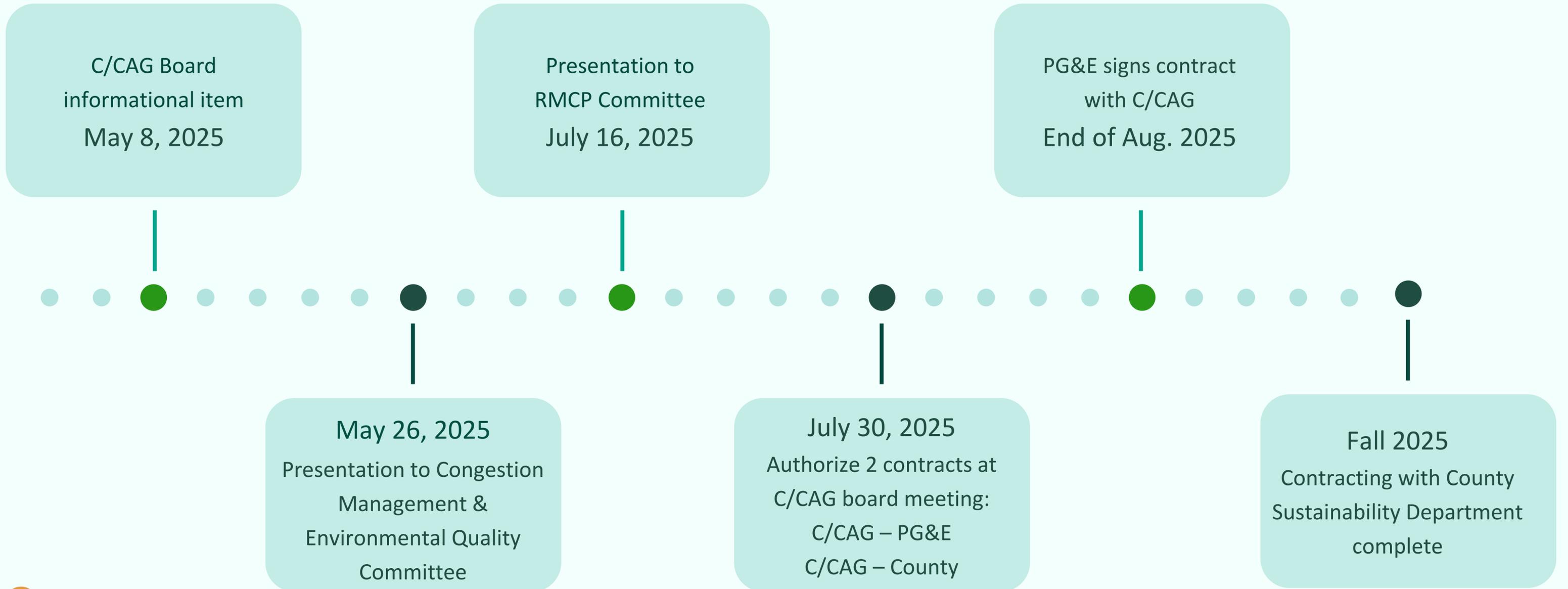
- Launching **countywide electrification communication campaign** in Fall, 2025
- Developed **Electrification First Policy & Staff Report**
- Published **Grid Reliability Explainer**
- Supported the development and **passage of CAPs** in Foster City, Atherton, Menlo Park, East Palo Alto in 2024
- Additional tailored **CAP development support** in 2025 for San Carlos, Portola Valley, and others
- Provide ongoing support for all jurisdictions **navigating emerging policy challenges** for reach code development



SMCEW Program Cycles & Budgets



SMCEW Contracting Timeline





Thank you!

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