

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Consider  
Strategies and Guidance for Climate Change  
Adaptation.

Rulemaking 18-04-019

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY'S (U 338-E) COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

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Southern California Edison Company (SCE) hereby submits its Community Engagement Plan Pursuant to Commission Decision 20-08-046 in Phase One of R. 18-04-019 (Attachment 1 hereto).

Respectfully submitted,

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May XXXX

DRAFT

**Attachment 1**

**Southern California Edison Company's Community Engagement Plan**

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY'S (U 338-E)  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN (CEP)**

DRAFT

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY’S (U 338-E) COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT PLAN (CEP)**

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## I.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Southern California Edison (SCE) is committed to building, maintaining, and safely operating a reliable, resilient, clean, and affordable electric system for the communities we serve. As a progressive partner in achieving California’s climate change adaptation<sup>1</sup> and mitigation goals, we are comprehensively assessing longer-term climate change risks to make our electrical assets, operations and services more resilient, while taking action now, such as wildfire mitigation activities and decarbonization measures such as clean energy procurement, energy storage, transportation electrification, building electrification and energy efficiency.

From a climate change mitigation perspective, SCE’s Pathway 2045 lays out a feasible and economic route to realize California’s GHG reduction goals and achieve carbon neutrality in California at the lowest reasonable cost by 2045.<sup>2</sup> In this pathway, which California has begun to implement in many ways, economy-wide reductions in greenhouse gas emissions can be achieved through deep decarbonization of the electric sector, significant electrification of transportation and buildings, coupled with advanced energy efficiency and use of low-carbon fuels for hard-to-electrify applications such as industrial use and heavy-duty transportation. This analysis also found that while electricity bills increase over time in pursuing this pathway, the cost of energy consumed for an average household decreases by one-third by 2045, driven by reduced gasoline consumption due to the high market penetration of electric vehicles as well as lower natural gas consumption in water and space heating.

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<sup>1</sup> The definition of climate change adaptation for California’s energy utilities is as follows: “Climate change adaptation is adjustment in natural and human systems to a new or changing environment. Adaptation to climate change for energy utilities regulated by the Commission refers to adjustment in utility systems using strategic and data-driven consideration of actual or expected climatic impacts and stimuli or their effects on utility planning, facilities maintenance and construction, and communications, to maintain safe, reliable, affordable and resilient operations.” See D.18-04-019, p. 56.

<sup>2</sup> See the Whitepaper available at <https://www.edison.com/home/our-perspective/pathway-2045.html>

Climate mitigation activities combined with climate adaptation efforts provide a complete response to climate change. SCE stepped up its wildfire mitigation efforts in 2018 to reduce the risk of fire ignitions caused by utility infrastructure during climate change-driven extreme weather conditions. Our efforts have ramped up significantly since then. In 2020, the company devoted \$1.3 billion to wildfire mitigation activities and is on track to spend an additional \$3.5 billion during 2021-2022. As part of these activities, last year SCE replaced more than 960 miles of power lines with insulated ones, known as covered conductor, bringing the total to more than 1,480 miles since 2018. SCE is continuing this effort and plans to install approximately 6,200 miles of covered conductor by 2023. Last year, SCE also upgraded more than 6,090 poles to fire-resistant versions, bringing the total to more than 7,510 poles since 2018. This effort increases the resilience of SCE's infrastructure to minimize service disruptions during fires regardless of ignition source. Separately, SCE also removed more than 12,200 hazard trees in 2020 (double the number from 2019) that could fall into power lines and lead to a fire ignition. SCE's 2021 update to its 2020-22 Wildfire Mitigation Plan provides additional details regarding its wildfire mitigation activities.<sup>3</sup>

SCE regularly engages with our communities through a series of existing local outreach efforts and through SCE's Wildfire Management Plan and Public Safety Power Shutoff communication and engagement efforts. We are continuously working to improve and to learn about best practices for effective engagement based on the needs of our diverse communities. We plan to build upon our local outreach efforts and incorporate new opportunities and engagement approaches to address feedback received in this Community Engagement Plan (CEP) development process, particularly on engagement practices to further reach and hear from the disadvantaged and vulnerable communities we serve. This partnership and engagement with our customers and communities will be focused on potential impacts of climate change on SCE's infrastructure, operations and services, as well as the actions SCE plans to take to address those impacts and improve the customer and community experience.

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<sup>3</sup> See SCE's 2021 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Update filed at the CPUC on Feb 5, 2021.

This CEP expands on our efforts to engage disadvantaged vulnerable communities (DVCs) regarding our climate risk assessments and adaptation options for the electricity system, to share information with these communities and understand their perspectives and concerns regarding such risks, as well as opportunities and improvements that SCE's adaptation investments will create.

SCE submits this CEP pursuant to the California Public Utilities Commission's (Commission or CPUC) Decision on Energy Utility Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments and Climate Adaptation in Disadvantaged Communities (Phase 1, Topics 4 and 5), Decision (D.) 20-08-046. In its CEP, SCE describes its comprehensive engagement strategy with DVCs for the purposes of identifying and prioritizing utility climate adaptation investments to address the vulnerabilities it identifies. SCE will prioritize its climate adaptation investments in impacted communities to promote equity based on the communities' relative ability to withstand potential climate-driven disruptions in electric service, generally referred to as adaptive capacity. Additionally, SCE describes its plans to partner with Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and trusted agency partners to assist with gathering information for its electrical asset vulnerability assessment, and to engage with communities on its planned adaptation measures and implementation. SCE will conduct a survey within one year of its first vulnerability assessment filing to assess the effectiveness of its community engagement efforts. SCE will share the survey information with the Commission in a report submitted one year after SCE's first vulnerability assessment and will also use this information to inform our future community engagement.

SCE is committed to working with the Commission and its staff, other investor-owned utilities (IOUs), DVCs, our customers and other key stakeholders on the design, implementation, and continuous improvement of the company's CEP.

## II. INTRODUCTION

Climate change is driving unprecedented weather conditions and catastrophes around the world. For example, climate change-driven prolonged periods of high temperatures and drought resulted in significant buildup of dry vegetation fuel, which combined with record-high winds and lightning storms, have dramatically increased the frequency and size of wildfires in California. In 2020, California experienced the worst year on record with respect to wildfires, with nearly 10,000 fires burning over 4.2 million acres and consuming about 4% of all land in the state.<sup>4</sup> Similarly, due to climate change, more intense and longer heat waves are expected in the coming decades. In August 2020, the western United States experienced one of the strongest heat waves on record, requiring the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) to direct the utilities to implement rotating outages for the first time in 19 years.

SCE appreciates the Commission’s focus on climate change adaptation as reflected in its Order Instituting Rulemaking to Consider Strategies and Guidance for Climate Change Adaptation (Rulemaking or OIR).<sup>5</sup> As the Commission explained:

“[a]t its essence, climate change adaptation for California’s investor-owned energy utilities (IOUs or energy utilities) focuses on incorporating the best available climate science into utility assets, operations, and services for the long-term to help ensure provision of resilient and reliable service to all customers. The purpose of this Rulemaking and the guidance adopted herein is to provide a forum for addressing how energy utilities should plan and prepare for increased operational risks due to changing climate conditions and heightened risks from wildfires, extreme heat, extreme storms, drought, subsidence and sea level rise, among other climate change phenomena.”<sup>6</sup>

SCE has been involved in national climate adaptation efforts since 2015, partnering with the U.S. Department of Energy and other utilities to accelerate deployment of adaptation measures, including technologies, practices, and public policies. In 2018, SCE submitted its first

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<sup>4</sup> See e.g., CAL FIRE’s historical top 20 largest and top 20 most destructive fires, available at <https://www.fire.ca.gov/stats-events/>.

<sup>5</sup> See R.18-04-019, Order Instituting Rulemaking to Consider Strategies and Guidance for Climate Adaptation, issued on April 26, 2018.

<sup>6</sup> See Decision D.20-08-046, p.2.

Risk Assessment Mitigation Phase (RAMP) filing to the Commission documenting SCE's preliminary plans to mitigate near, medium, and long-term climate change impacts. SCE is also in the process of implementing a robust infrastructure program to mitigate the risk of wildfires associated with electric facilities, as described in its most recent Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP)<sup>7</sup>.

As required by the Commission's decision<sup>8</sup> in this Rulemaking, SCE is conducting a vulnerability assessment (VA) focused on the resiliency of its electrical system to longer-term climate change risks. SCE's VA will form the basis for community engagement and continuing outreach to communities, including DVCs. Community input and feedback will be important as SCE explores options for prioritizing and mitigating these vulnerabilities. SCE's VA will also consider climate risk of certain third-party-owned facilities that SCE has contracts with for power, capacity or reliability, as reported by the operators of the facilities. As part of exploring adaptation measures, SCE plans to consider green and sustainable remedies for the vulnerable infrastructure and ways to promote equity in DVCs based on their adaptive capacity. SCE's VA is scheduled to be submitted to the Commission in May 2022.

This CEP articulates SCE's strategy to engage further with DVCs to strengthen partnerships and gain additional information and insights from the DVCs that will help make SCE's VA and adaptation measures more robust. SCE's vision for CEP success includes meaningful participation from leaders and members of DVCs in our community engagement process, an opportunity to learn useful information about our vulnerability assessment process, gain an understanding of vulnerabilities to our electricity grid due to impacts from the projected climate change, and provide input towards potential adaptation options. The sections below describe SCE's CEP in further detail.

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<sup>7</sup> See SCE's 2021 WMP Update submitted to the CPUC on February 5, 2021.

<sup>8</sup> See Decision D.20-08-046, Ordering Paragraphs.

### III.

#### **THE CEP IS DESIGNED TO SUPPORT COMMUNITIES' UNDERSTANDING OF SCE'S VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT & CLIMATE ADAPTATION OPTIONS**

SCE's CEP involves communities and CBOs in SCE's electrical infrastructure vulnerability assessment and climate adaptation process. Consistent with the Commission's requirements, SCE is focusing its VA on the following climate impacts: temperature, precipitation (snowpack, extreme precipitation events, long-term precipitation trends, drought, subsidence), wildfire, sea level, and cascading impacts/compounding incidents. SCE is assessing the vulnerability of its electrical assets, operations, and services given these projected climate change impacts using the Commission-endorsed climate change emissions data, tools, and models, based on the guidance provided by the Commission in its Decision in Phase 1 of this Rulemaking.<sup>9</sup> The key time frame for SCE's VA is the next 20–30 years; however, SCE is also including in its assessment an intermediate time frame of the next 10–20 years and a long-term time frame of the next 30–50 years.

SCE describes below the climate risks that it is analyzing and the related vulnerability assessment activities.

#### **A. Climate Risks to SCE's Electrical Assets, Operations and Services**

Climate projections through 2050 indicate that SCE's service area can expect several climate change impacts under an RCP 8.5 scenario.

*Temperature.* Through 2050, temperatures—both average and extreme—are projected to rise, and heat waves are projected to become hotter, longer, more frequent, and more widespread across the western United States, including SCE's service area.<sup>10</sup> Median and 90<sup>th</sup> percentile temperature projections of SCE's service area show a ~5.2° F and ~6.8° F increase in

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<sup>9</sup> See Decision D.19-10-054.

<sup>10</sup> Cal-Adapt. 2020. Extreme Heat Days & Warm Nights. Available from: <https://cal-adapt.org/tools/extreme-heat/>.

average August temperatures respectively, with less warming in coastal regions where temperatures are more regulated by ocean currents.

*Precipitation.* Climate projections indicate that California could experience relatively small changes in mean average annual precipitation, though more variation in precipitation is expected from year-to-year.<sup>11,12</sup> Projected increases in precipitation variability are driven in part by a change in seasonal rainfall patterns, where regions experience more intense but less frequent rainfall. For example, the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile outcome for precipitation projections shows a relative doubling in extreme precipitation days<sup>13</sup> in fire-prone regions when compared against the historical baseline, with little change in cumulative precipitation on average. Rising temperatures also heighten the risk of rain-on-snow events, which can trigger severe flood events.

*Wildfire.* Climate change is projected to increase the intensity and size of summer (fuel-driven) wildfires within SCE’s service area.<sup>14</sup> Specifically, changes in climate—including higher temperatures, longer and drier dry seasons, more frequent severe drought years, and more frequent precipitation “whiplash” or transition from very dry to very wet years—are expected to

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<sup>11</sup> Swain, D. L., Langenbrunner, B., Neelin, J. D., & Hall, A. 2018. Increasing precipitation volatility in twenty-first-century California. *Nature Climate Change*, 8(5), 427.

<sup>12</sup> Pierce, D. W., J. F. Kalansky, and D. R. Cayan, (Scripps Institution of Oceanography). 2018. Climate, Drought, and Sea Level Rise Scenarios for the Fourth California Climate Assessment. California’s Fourth Climate Change Assessment, California Energy Commission. Publication Number: CNRA-CEC-2018-006; Cal-Adapt. 2019. Wildfire. Available at: <https://cal-adapt.org/tools/wildfire/>; State of California Sea-Level Rise Guidance. 2018. California Ocean Protection Council. Available at: [http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/agenda\\_items/20180314/Item3\\_Exhibit-A OPC SLR Guidance-rd3.pdf](http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/agenda_items/20180314/Item3_Exhibit-A OPC SLR Guidance-rd3.pdf).

<sup>13</sup> An extreme precipitation event is defined as any day that exceeds the highest 1% of days of rainfall in observed data at a given location

<sup>14</sup> Westerling, A. L., Hidalgo, H. G., Cayan, D. R., & Swetnam, T. W. 2006. Warming and earlier spring increase western US forest wildfire activity. *Science*, 313(5789), 940-943. ; Westerling, A. L. (2018). Wildfire Simulations for the Fourth California Climate Assessment: Projecting Changes in Extreme Wildfire Events with a Warming Climate. California’s Fourth Climate Change Assessment, California Energy Commission. Publication number: CCCA4-CEC-2018-014.

create conditions more favorable to wildfire propagation,<sup>15</sup> <sup>16</sup> and those acres burned by wildfire may continue to increase.<sup>17</sup> Projected increase in summer wildfire risk is especially pronounced in montane regions.

*Sea Level Rise.* Climate projections indicate that sea levels will continue to rise.<sup>18</sup> Sea level is expected to increase in Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, and the City of Los Angeles by 1 ft. (0.3 m) in 2030 and 2.5 to 2.6 ft. (0.8 m) in 2050 relative to the year 2000. Along the coast, rising sea levels are expected to lead to increased flooding extents and increased erosion.

## **B. Vulnerability Assessment Process**

SCE describes the objectives, scope and methodology for its VA process.

### **1. Objectives**

SCE's VA is focused on achieving the following objectives:

- a) Identify and prioritize SCE's assets, operations, and services vulnerable to climate change in the years 2030, 2050 and 2070, based on expected likelihood and magnitude of consequences of potential failure and/or reduced performance.
- b) Develop adaptation options for those prioritized assets, operations, and services with the highest likelihood and consequences.

### **2. Scope**

SCE is studying the impact of climate change on its infrastructure across the following organizations:

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<sup>15</sup> Swain, D. L., Langenbrunner, B., Neelin, J. D., & Hall, A. 2018. Increasing precipitation volatility in twenty-first-century California. *Nature Climate Change*, 8(5), 427.

<sup>16</sup> Colgan, D. 2018. Study forecasts a severe climate future for California. <http://newsroom.ucla.edu/releases/california-extreme-climate-future-ucla-study>.

<sup>17</sup> Bedsworth, L., D. Cayan, G. Franco, L. Fisher, S. Ziaja. 2018. Statewide Summary Report. California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment. Publication number: SUMCCCA4-2018-013.

<sup>18</sup> Bedsworth, L., D. Cayan, G. Franco, L. Fisher, S. Ziaja. 2018. Statewide Summary Report. California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment. Publication number: SUMCCCA4-2018-013.

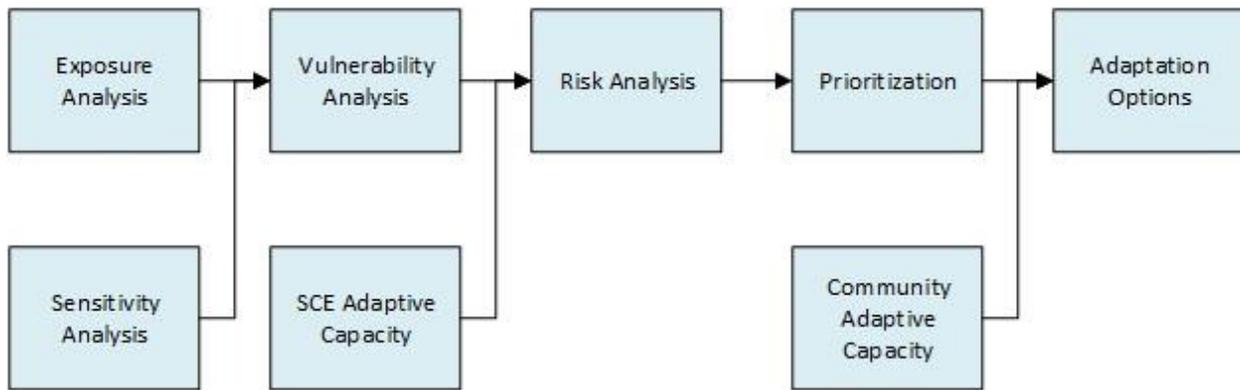
- a) **Transmission and Distribution:** This encompasses electric system infrastructure required to transfer energy from where it is generated to the customers and equipment that use it. Examples include overhead wires, poles, large steel towers, substations, and service transformers.
- b) **Generation:** This includes hydro generation facilities, dams, thermal power plants, assets on Catalina Island, and other technologies owned and operated by SCE for power production. Examples include the Big Creek Hydroelectric project and Mountainview combined cycle plant.
- c) **Corporate Real Estate:** This includes offices, service centers, training facilities, and other occupied SCE properties. Examples include the Alhambra Control Center and Irvine Operations Center.
- d) **Information Technology:** This includes telecommunication infrastructure and facilities required to provide communication services across SCE including Transmission and Distribution, Generation, and Corporate Real Estate. Examples include antennas, towers, fiber cables, copper cables, transport equipment, and networking equipment.

Similarly, SCE is also studying the impact of climate change on critical operations and services across the following organizations:

- a) Information Technology: This includes activities that monitor, maintain, and react to emergency outage conditions to ensure the safe and reliable operation of telecommunications equipment. Telecommunication equipment includes equipment that enables communication services to support mobile radios, transmission and distribution assets, generation facilities, and communication services for all personnel. Many critical operations and services encompass the ability for field personnel to physically reach hazardous locations, troubleshoot, and possess suitable tools to fix equipment and restore services that have been damaged due to changing climate conditions.
- b) Customer Operations and Services: This includes operations, programs, and services that enable SCE to connect and assist its customer base and enable demand response, reliable service, and electrification. The analysis involves determining if the operability of any of the programs, operations and services will be impacted by climate change and how their expected outcomes may change as a result. It also identifies vulnerable locations within our program reach that have high climate risk and low program penetration.
- c) Energy Procurement and Management (Contracted Assets): This includes communicating with the operators of third-party contract facilities to understand climate exposure and risk.

**3. Analytical Methodology**

SCE is using the following analytical approach for its VA:



Exposure analysis focuses on generating climate projections for the primary climate variables described above, i.e., temperature, precipitation, sea level rise, and wildfires, to support VA analyses across SCE departments. Additionally, SCE is developing methodologies and projections for cascading events. SCE is using the Commission-identified high emissions ‘RCP8.5’ global warming scenario for generating climate projections. Consistent with the Commission’s guidance to focus on climate impacts in 10-20 years, 20-30 years and 30-50 years, SCE generated climate exposure projections for the years 2030, 2050 and 2070 to inform the VA analytical process. Based on the exposure projections, SCE’s subject matter experts are assessing the sensitivity levels of its electrical assets, operations and services to each of the primary climate variables being projected. Qualitative and quantitative metrics based on exposure and sensitivity will inform levels of vulnerability of SCE’s assets, operations, and services. This analysis will cover three time slices – 2030, 2050 and 2070. Exposure and sensitivity results are combined to determine if assets, operations, and services are vulnerable to climate change or if they can be offramped to be studied in the future.

In the “At Risk Assets” phase of the analysis, the vulnerable assets, operations and services are further assessed in terms of the likelihood of these vulnerabilities to occur and the consequences of these vulnerabilities. SCE’s adaptive capacity (including existing and planned procedures, processes and investments) is also considered to assess its effects on reducing the likelihood and consequences of identified vulnerabilities. Results of this phase of the analysis will identify asset- and system-level risks and inform adaptation in the timeframes (2030, 2050 and 2070) identified in the VA objectives. The likelihood and consequences related assessments

generated in the At Risk Assets phase of the analysis will inform the prioritization of vulnerable assets, operations and services.

Lastly, climate change adaptation options for prioritized vulnerable assets, operations and services will be developed, focusing on reducing or eliminating the negative impacts on SCE's electric system from these vulnerabilities and improving the communities' experience. SCE will assess and consider the DVCs' ability to withstand higher risks of potential disruption in electrical service due to climate change impacts, referred to as "adaptive capacity," in this phase. Potential adaptation options will be discussed with DVCs, CBOs, and other stakeholders to receive feedback.

#### IV.

#### **THE CEP IS FOCUSED ON DISADVANTAGED VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES**

SCE's community engagement process considers the needs of the DVCs as SCE conducts the vulnerability assessment of its electrical assets, operations and services. DVCs will require particular attention for climate adaptation purposes when utilities begin making asset, operations and service changes as part of their climate adaptation efforts, since they could be disproportionately affected by climate change, have less access to information on climate change, and have lower adaptive capacity to counter such impacts. As defined in the Decision, DVCs in the utility climate adaptation context are:

“[C]ommunities in the 25% highest scoring census tracts according to the most recent version of the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen), as well as all California tribal lands, census tracts with median household incomes less than 60% of state median income, and census tracts that score in the highest 5% of Pollution Burden within CalEnviroScreen, but do not receive an overall CalEnviroScreen score due to unreliable public health and socioeconomic data.”<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> D. 20-08-046, p 119.

**A. DVCs in SCE’s Service area**

SCE has identified a list of cities, census-designated communities, and unincorporated communities within its service area and matched these cities with census tracts containing information on CalEnviroScreen scores and state median income per the Commission’s definition of DVCs. If a city or community contained at least one census tract designated as DVC according to the Commission’s definition, then that city was designated as a DVC in SCE’s analysis. All tribal lands are considered DVCs per the Commission’s definition. A list of the 161 DVCs in SCE’s service area identified in this process is provided in Appendix A. An interactive map of SCE’s service area and values for each of the components for the Commission’s definition of DVCs are available on SCE’s climate adaptation webpage.<sup>20</sup>

**B. Adaptive Capacity in DVCs**

Once SCE’s VA is complete, SCE’s climate adaptation options will be informed in part by the affected community’s adaptive capacity. Therefore, understanding the existing adaptive capacity of the DVCs is a key component of SCE’s CEP. The Commission defines adaptive capacity as: “[t]he broad range of responses and adjustments to daily and extreme climate change-related events available to communities. This includes the ability and resources communities have to moderate potential damages, take advantage of opportunities, and cope with consequences.”<sup>21</sup>

While collecting initial feedback on SCE’s CEP outline, SCE questioned community-based interviewees about their perception of community adaptive capacity and found that most stakeholders interviewed think that their community has low adaptive capacity.

SCE cautions that these interviews are limited in scope and are anecdotal. Essentially, in January and February 2021, SCE posed two adaptation-related questions to CBOs, local organizations, and leaders:

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<sup>20</sup> <https://www.sce.com/about-us/environment/climate-adaptation>.

<sup>21</sup> D. 20-08-046, p 16.

- What types of information do you already have and/or would like to have about climate change impacts in your community?
- What level of adaptive capacity do you believe your community currently has?

Most individuals indicated that their communities have low levels of adaptive capacity, with a few individuals indicating that they felt their communities have medium adaptive capacity, and only one person stated that their community appeared to have high adaptive capacity. Some community members compared their climate adaptive capacity to how they dealt with COVID-19. Some felt that COVID-19 put communities in a better position to adapt to climate change after having to rapidly adjust to the pandemic, while others felt that COVID-19 added to existing disparities and that people are exhausted and have lower adaptive capacity as a result.

As SCE conducts its vulnerability assessment, SCE plans to further explore and assess adaptive capacity of the DVCs. SCE plans to develop metrics for this assessment to comparatively evaluate DVCs.

### **C. Assessment of Municipal Level Climate Preparedness Planning**

SCE has begun examining municipal level climate preparedness planning of our DVCs based on a 2020 commissioned report from Climate Resolve: *Ready for Tomorrow: A Snapshot of Climate Preparedness Planning in Southern California*<sup>22</sup> and its accompanying data set: *Climate Resolve Matrix 1.0 - Status of Municipal Climate Preparedness in SCE Service Area*.

Using the Climate Resolve report, SCE plans to use the following four categories as a proxy for DVCs' municipal level climate preparedness planning:

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<sup>22</sup> Climate Resolve. 2020. *Ready for Tomorrow: A Snapshot of Climate Preparedness Planning in Southern California*, available at: <https://www.climateresolve.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Ready-For-Tomorrow-SCE-Report.pdf>.

- High level of planning: Cities with specific standalone climate change and/or sustainability reports or plans (including reports in process); and/or updated general plans that include climate adaptation per California Senate Bill 379<sup>23</sup> or California Senate Bill 1035,<sup>24</sup> whether or not these general plans containing environmental justice provisions that comply with California Senate Bill 1000.<sup>25</sup>
- Medium level of planning: Cities with climate-related plans (e.g. Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, Emergency Operations/Management Plans) but do not have a specific climate resilience/adaptation report or general plan with climate adaptation components;
- Low level of planning: Cities without reports or work on climate adaptation/resilience.
- No Data: lack of data on climate adaptation planning in a community in the Climate Resolve report.

**D. Promoting Equity in DVCs Based on Their Adaptive Capacity**

Climate change impacts to the utility system will disproportionately impact our most vulnerable communities. DVCs are expected to have difficulty coping with climate-driven impacts including, but not limited to, the impacts they experience in light of climate risks to utility's assets and services, due to their potential inability to adopt resiliency measures that more affluent communities may be able to access more easily. For example, these communities often lack the social and economic resources necessary to invest in their own resiliency measures or to temporarily relocate to avoid climate-driven utility disruptions. Black, Indigenous and people of

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<sup>23</sup> SB 379 is available on the website for California Legislative Information at: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB379](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB379).

<sup>24</sup> SB 1035 is available on the website for California Legislative Information at: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1035](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1035).

<sup>25</sup> SB 1000 is available on the website for California Legislative Information at: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB1000](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB1000).

color (BIPOC), low-income urban populations, agricultural workers, rural populations, older adults and children in these communities are particularly at risk.

Vulnerable communities are historically underrepresented in decision-making processes and/or unable to dedicate the significant time and resources required to equally participate in such processes. Therefore, these communities are often unable to influence critical decisions that affect them directly. A DVC's adaptive capacity analysis will help SCE determine the need for additional resources. In order to promote equity, SCE will prioritize its climate adaptation investments in DVCs based on the communities' adaptive capacity. To ensure that vulnerable communities are appropriately represented in the decision-making processes associated with prioritizing the increased resources and adaptation investments needed to mitigate climate-related vulnerabilities, SCE will partner with CBOs in DVCs to obtain feedback on adaptation options as part of our CEP efforts. Enhanced engagement, outreach, and education for DVCs will also be an integral component of SCE's climate change adaptation plans in future general rate cases or other applications. While SCE plans to do its part, state and local governments, various agencies and other community organizations also have a vital role in improving communities' adaptive capacity to cope with climate change impacts.

## V.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS**

As we do already with existing community engagement efforts, SCE is structuring its community engagement associated with the VA to be an ongoing process. During the balance of 2021 and until SCE submits its VA to the CPUC in May 2022, SCE plans to engage with DVCs to collect input for our VA, share the results of our VA and discuss climate adaptation options. SCE's community engagement activities will continue even after the VA is submitted to the CPUC, including to review specific projects in DVCs that SCE might propose for funding at the CPUC.

**A. Objectives for Community Engagement**

SCE is continuing to use a community-centered approach for its VA community engagement by considering local needs, history, social structures, and experiences. SCE looks forward to expanding its existing partnerships with CBOs, local officials, business groups and chambers as well as building new partnerships with other relevant stakeholders in developing and implementing this CEP. SCE intends to work closely with its CBO partners who are positioned to meet special community needs, such as in-language communications and outreach to hard-to-reach communities such as rural, non-English-speaking, or customer segments that are often less engaged.

SCE intends to achieve the following objectives so that our community engagement is productive and engenders trust:

- Partner with CBOs as trusted messengers to interface with communities and deliver SCE's messages and gather relevant information;
- Provide relevant information to DVCs about climate change impacts, potential vulnerabilities of the electric grid to climate change, and possible climate adaptation options;
- Listen to understand perspectives of DVCs and gather useful information from DVCs to assist development of SCE's climate adaptation options that reflect the needs and inputs of its DVCs.
- Develop better understanding of local issues and challenges to help tailor engagement activities and adaptation solutions;
- Encourage two-way engagement for information sharing and continuous feedback;
- Build greater trust between SCE and the targeted communities, including understanding each communities' unique adaptation needs.

## **B. Components of SCE's Community Engagement**

SCE is looking to partner with CBOs that serve DVCs within its service area and have substantial demographic reach, including in multiple languages, to serve in leadership roles for this community engagement. In this role, CBOs will help determine the best approach for meaningful engagement with the communities. The CBOs would also be expected to engage with the community residents to discuss SCE's vulnerability assessment and climate adaptation activities, including the various impacts and opportunities. Some of SCE's planned components for community engagement are described below.

### **1. Develop Communication Methods and Platforms**

*Message Development.* SCE will develop core messages for this engagement using proven components based on social science research about messaging on climate change risks.<sup>26</sup> By working with local partners, SCE will customize such messages for local communities while ensuring consistency.

*Language & Communication Methods.* SCE will provide communications in appropriate languages to more fully engage non-English speakers. Before utilizing a specific language or channel for distribution, SCE will work with local trusted leaders and partners to elicit recommendations for effective platforms to reach the members of their community.

### **1. Assess Optimal Communication Approach by Population Segments**

SCE's engagement is based on the understanding that a community, interest group, stakeholder segment, and self-defined community may have different social structures, communication preferences, levels of climate adaptation awareness, bandwidth, and priorities. Engaging various segments will require different approaches that have been noted by that community as the most effective method, including the appropriate tactics and cadence to reach various population segments.

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<sup>26</sup> For example, SCE relies on the guide available at <http://guide.cred.columbia.edu/>.

The following are examples of factors the CBOs and SCE will consider while developing its engagement approach:

*Disconnected Populations.* Often, government officials and agencies are a key connection to local leaders and community stakeholders. In the case where no such strong government presence is apparent or active, SCE will work to identify other access points, such as faith leaders, local teachers and educators, and health providers.

*Urban vs. Rural Settings.* SCE's service area stretches across 50,000 square miles and a diverse set of communities. Some are dense, urban environments and others are sparsely populated, rural communities. Whether agricultural lands or mountain villages, the more rural communities require an approach unique to that community. This could entail virtual webinars or "telephone town halls" to allow greater participation without requiring the need to travel great distances, or participating in existing community gatherings whether those are regularly scheduled or annual events. Conversely, in a densely populated urban environment, it is difficult for a utility to directly reach a wide cross section of the population, so it must rely on trusted community leaders who can speak for and connect with the communities.

*Faith-Based Organizations.* Faith leaders carry sway within a community, and with the proper approach of respect, deference, collaboration, and support, they can be key at connecting with community members. With so many diverse faith communities in the SCE service area, approaching faith leaders in a way that does not distract them from their core mission nor lump them together as one type of leader is essential to successful partnership and collaboration. The process of listening and learning from these individuals and organizations will reveal the genuine nature of the potential partnership for the needs of SCE and the community in the face of potential consequences due to climate impacts on SCE's assets, operations and services. When appropriate, SCE will also engage with existing "interfaith roundtables."

*Diverse Ethnic Communities.* Recognizing that people of various heritages, nationalities, ethnicities, and racial origins bring specific and unique cultural experiences and identities to any interaction, SCE will build on established partnerships with key community

leaders from the various BIPOC communities to deepen trust and understanding over an appropriate timeframe for the purpose of future collaboration. Much of this work will center around culturally appropriate education on the issue of climate change, the intention of SCE, and the mutual benefit the collaboration would produce.

*Access and Functional Needs (AFN) Customers and Critical Care Customers.* SCE plans to work with leaders who support individuals with access and functional needs. Specifically, SCE will work with advocates so that the perspectives and needs of the AFN community are included and met through the climate adaptation options. This engagement may require more one-on-one conversations and interactions than with other groups, including activities that would be customized for individuals requiring special assistance.

## **2. Utilize Virtual and In-person Meetings**

SCE will work to diversify the engagement opportunities to facilitate in-person, telephonic, and web-based interactions to make community engagement accessible. Further, recognizing the “Digital Divide” – the lack of reliable internet connection and/or digital experience – SCE will endeavor to select tools and channels that accommodate for lack of internet connection and other platform limitations (such as translation capabilities) that would exclude interested community members from participating. Additionally, in starting the engagement process within a community, SCE will seek to identify existing meetings and projects relevant to this engagement. In this way, SCE would not host repetitive meetings that the community has already experienced before the start of SCE’s process. If groups are already meeting, SCE will work to attend an existing meeting rather than host its own engagement activity that might be redundant, dilute participation at other meetings, and overburden the community SCE seeks to engage.

## **3. Design a Community-Specific and Localized Process**

SCE plans to invite local CBOs to partner with SCE and help connect with and get feedback from the appropriate members of the DVC community. By working with the

key local partners and other leaders, SCE will establish community-specific approaches, including who to engage, what engagement looks like in the context of SCE’s VA, and the role of the engagement activities in SCE’s VA and climate adaptation process. An expected outcome is that by collaboratively working with SCE, the local leaders will develop the foundational knowledge to help shape SCE’s adaptation plans and communicate SCE’s plans and progress to the communities. SCE plans to collaboratively create a schedule of activities to achieve the stated goals, including sharing the VA and climate adaptation analysis. The activities and tactics used here would be based on best practices described below. SCE is also exploring the creation of an advisory committee consisting of local CBOs and/or local leaders from across the DVCs to discuss feedback received from individual communities as well as cross-cutting issues.

#### **4. Rely on Best Practices**

Based in part on SCE’s recent engagement with its communities, for example related to its Wildfire Mitigation Plan and Public Safety Power Shutoffs, SCE identified best practices to draw upon during the implementation of this CEP. The following are some of the effective practices identified by stakeholder feedback and informed by accepted approaches such as those from Stanford University<sup>27</sup>, International Association For Public Participation (IAP2)<sup>28</sup>, and the Institute for Local Government. SCE plans to work with our CBO partners to utilize these best practices to engage the DVC communities.

*Engagement Approach.* SCE’s approach to engagement is inclusive, collaborative, iterative and focused on the needs of its communities and building long-term partnerships to promote climate resilience. Transparency about the intent driving the CEP, the process, and how stakeholder feedback is being utilized are paramount to develop trust. A few of the approach-related best practices that will be employed include focusing on two-way dialogue, building on relationships with CBOs, communicating when and how stakeholders will

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<sup>27</sup> See <https://haas.stanford.edu/about/our-approach/principles-ethical-and-effective-service>.

<sup>28</sup> IAP2 is an international organization advancing the practice of public participation.

have a chance to weigh in and how feedback is collected and used, and leveraging the reputation and connections of CBOs and other trusted local groups that have strong roots in vulnerable communities to act as messengers and partners with SCE.

*Live Engagement (in person or online) Activities.* Live events, whether virtual or in-person, are essential to building trust, connections, understanding, and partnerships. A few of the best practices for live engagement that will be employed include hosting and co-hosting (with CBO partners) townhall meetings, community meetings and listening sessions; and online and telephone workshops/townhalls. These activities will be scheduled, designed, and hosted in a way that reflects the needs and interests of the local community, as informed by local CBO partners.

*Increasing Engagement at Live Events.* SCE aims to maximize opportunities to engage and optimize engagement experiences. Tactics will include combining outreach events with other already-established events (e.g., tribal events, City Council meetings, faith-based events, etc.); providing a variety of formats and times for live community engagement to reach the greatest number of people; sending questions to attendees a couple of days before meetings to help stimulate participation and dialogue during the meeting; and using pre- and post-event surveys to gauge success and make improvements.

*Communication Tactics.* Creating a dialogue is essential to successful engagement. SCE will engage with easy-to-understand messaging, employing multiple platforms and opportunities for feedback. During live events, SCE recognizes the importance of utilizing translation services and visuals and signed/captioned options for deaf/hard of hearing individuals. Channels for consideration include: advertisements in print, online, and radio media (in multiple languages, when appropriate); direct mailings and distribution of flyers; in-person announcements and invitations at existing community events. SCE also plans to explore options such as social media campaigns, phone banks, surveys, and small group discussions to allow more voices to be heard (vs. large, public events), and will encourage feedback and dialogue during live engagement events.

*Barriers to Address.* Access to the Internet, computers and other technology can be a limitation to participation for some of our communities and customers. SCE intends to host various outreach events, which include in-person events when it is safe to do so, and remote access activities to reach as broad a swath of our communities as possible. Additionally, recognizing that community members have differing levels of awareness of the topics being addressed during community engagement, SCE will work to level community understanding of these issues by providing educational materials as part of our advance communication and engagement efforts.

**C. Timeline**

Our timeline and engagement efforts in development of this CEP and our vulnerability assessment (VA) can be illustrated in five (5) key steps:

STEP 1: January 2021

- Engage DVCs to inform and educate them on climate change impacts and the Climate Adaptation OIR and related CEP and VA efforts
- Engage DVCs to collect feedback on the CEP outline
- Engage DVCs to collect feedback on perceived community adaptive capacity levels
- Engage DVCs to collect feedback on effective engagement practices

STEP 2: April-May, 2021

- Continue engaging DVCs to inform and educate on climate change impacts and the Climate Adaptation OIR and related CEP and VA development efforts
- Engage DVCs to collect feedback on the draft CEP
- Engage DVCs for feedback on effective engagement practices for their communities, not included in the draft CEP
- Engage DVCs for interest in leadership roles
- Submit the CEP to the CPUC in May 2021

STEP 3: Sept-Oct, 2021

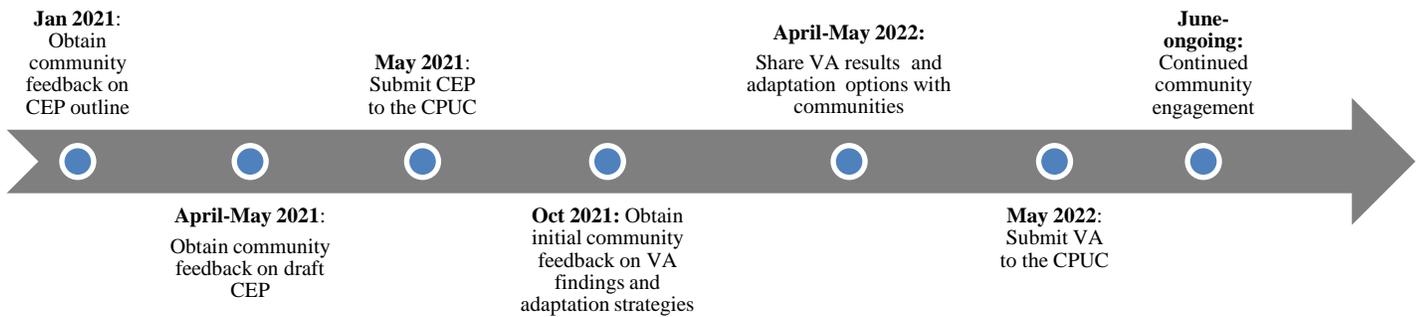
- Engage DVCs to share initial VA findings and seek feedback towards adaptation options

STEP 4: April-May, 2022

- Engage DVCs to share VA results and adaptation options
- Submit VA to the CPUC in May 2022

STEP 5: June 2022 – Ongoing

- Identify opportunities for continued engagement, conduct community engagement effectiveness survey



## VI.

### ASSESSING EFFECTIVENESS OF ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

SCE plans to design and deploy a survey for DVC feedback on whether its CEP outreach and engagement was effective in helping the communities understand and provide input to the vulnerability assessment process. Survey responses will be categorized by the type of outreach so assessments can be made on the type of outreach and engagement that is most effective. SCE intends to use qualitative and quantitative metrics to establish a baseline and measure change over time in stakeholders’ satisfaction with outreach and engagement from SCE, understanding of information presented, whether communities or individuals feel equipped to act as a result of the engagement, whether communities or individuals feel connected to resources relevant to

vulnerability assessments, and share concerns regarding climate change and climate change adaptation. Such metrics are intended to capture participation and actual engagement and to set the stage for a continuous feedback and sharing loop with stakeholders.

SCE will publicly share the results of this assessment.

## **VII.**

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF ESJ ACTION PLAN AND DACAG EQUITY FRAMEWORKS**

The Commission's Environmental and Social Justice (ESJ) Action Plan is intended to serve as a roadmap for implementing the Commission's vision to advance equity in its programs and policies for ESJ communities. The ESJ Action Plan establishes nine goals related to health and safety, consumer protection, program benefits, and enforcement in all the sectors the Commission regulates:

1. Consistently integrate equity and access considerations throughout Commission proceedings and other efforts;
2. Increase investment in clean energy resources to benefit ESJ communities, especially to improve local air quality and public health;
3. Strive to improve access to high-quality water, communications, and transportation services for ESJ communities;
4. Increase climate resiliency in ESJ communities;
5. Enhance outreach and public participation opportunities for ESJ communities to meaningfully participate in the Commission's decision-making process and benefit from Commission programs;
6. Enhance enforcement to ensure safety and consumer protection for ESJ communities;
7. Promote economic and workforce development opportunities in ESJ communities;
8. Improve training and staff development related to ESJ issues within the Commission's jurisdiction; and

9. Monitor the Commission's ESJ efforts to evaluate how they are achieving their objectives.

The Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan also contains an Appendix on the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG) Equity Framework (Appendix D) which outlines expectations regarding the public health lens of energy policies and programs (including building resiliency); access and education to ensure Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) benefit from clean energy technologies, energy efficiency, and other environmental investments (including culturally relevant and sensitive education to prepare for climate resilience); the financial benefits to DACs from investments in clean energy technologies, energy efficiency, and other environmental investments; clean energy workforce development; and consumer protection.

DVCs as defined in the Commission's Climate Adaptation OIR have significant but not complete overlap with both ESJ communities and DACs as defined by the Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan and the DACAG Equity Framework. SCE's CEP prioritizes the needs of DVCs and advances the Action Plan's goals 1, 2, 4, and 5 and the DACAG Equity Framework's expectations regarding building resiliency for public health as well as culturally-relevant and sensitive education materials we plan to use in our communication about climate resilience. The goal of the CEP is to engage DVCs on climate adaptation, the actions that SCE will take to improve the resilience of its assets, operations and services, and how to prioritize the mitigation measures; SCE expect that this engagement will enhance outreach and public participation opportunities for ESJ communities to meaningfully participate in the Commission's and the utility's climate adaptation processes.

## **VIII.**

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TRAINING**

To effectively engage with any community, and especially DVCs, those at SCE working to coordinate and undertake that engagement need to have the skills to move from strangers to

engaged partners. More than two dozen SCE staff who helped craft and lead the creation of the CEP participated in an interactive, seven-hour Community Intelligence Officer (ComIO) training. This baseline training provided and reinforced foundational practices and approaches for engagement to inform CEP.

The ComIO training focused on issues of equity, injustice, and cultural and community awareness to help reinforce the underlying issues as to why this engagement work must be done thoughtfully, intentionally, and collaboratively with the communities SCE serves. It reinforced fundamental engagement principles while introducing components from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to enhance the work of the attendees. The interactive sessions actively encouraged attendees to think differently about their relationships with individuals and the resulting dynamics of such interactions. The fundamentals of ComIO include communication skills and engagement tactics that apply to work in neighborhoods, government, business, non-profit, and other group settings. Participants also learned strategies to ask the right questions to the right people at the right time so their engagement efforts will engender trust. This training also provided participants strategies and frameworks to better understand and relate to the members of communities they seek to engage, serve and collaborate with. The foundational training will be augmented with specific training for those individuals who will be facilitating and conducting the interaction with community members, as well as those who will oversee the implementation of the plan and Vulnerability Assessment.

## **IX.**

### **INCLUDING COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES IN THE CEP PROCESS**

#### **A. SCE is Identifying Community Representatives**

SCE utilized its geospatial analysis to identify DVCs in its service area and then map community organizations who serve these DVCs. Organizations identified are prioritized based on factors such as community trust and reach potential, however, SCE will also engage with organizations based on their desire to assist and past performance of effective community

engagement. These organizations include parties to the proceeding, faith-based entities, community hospitals and regional government entities such as councils of governments (COGs).

SCE is engaging with organizations and community leaders who serve on advisory groups facilitated or co-facilitated by SCE such as the Consumer Advisory Panel (CAP), the Community Based Organization Marketing & Outreach Group (CBOMO) and the Clean Energy Access Working Group (CEAWG). The CAP consists of individuals, primarily from non-profit organizations, who are representative of SCE's diverse constituencies; they formally serve in this capacity as volunteers and advise SCE on developing policies and programs that impact the communities we serve. CBOMO is a group of community-based organizations who increase awareness and educate customers on wildfire and safety preparedness in the event of disaster. CEAWG is a group co-facilitated by SCE and the Greenlining Institute, which mostly consists of environmental, clean energy, and environmental justice non-profit organizations. The CEAWG regularly advises SCE on emerging policies and programs, and actively works on developing new projects that help increase access to clean energy resources in DVCs. SCE will also identify and work with government officials and institutions who work with local community organizations.

**B. SCE is Exploring CBO Interest in Leadership Roles Related to SCE's Vulnerability Assessment**

SCE is inviting community leaders with climate change experience to take on leadership roles in their areas of expertise as they relate to SCE's vulnerability assessment and climate adaptation, including leading conversations with the DVCs. In these roles, community leaders will facilitate organizing community outreach to engage their communities in SCE's service area in the languages and through the channels and activities that will best serve them. SCE will select qualified community leaders for leadership roles through established processes and using pro forma agreements that have been utilized for SCE's wildfire-related public safety power shutoff, or PSPS, program. Community organizations have been challenged in the past year with various demands including the COVID-19 pandemic, race relations and elections, and

have expressed the need for financial support to effectively partner and conduct engagement efforts to help SCE most effectively connect with DVC communities through trusted leaders who share their lived experiences. SCE is evaluating potential funding options for these leadership roles. SCE will seek to recover any costs related to such funding via the memorandum account set up for its climate adaptation vulnerability assessment.

During the dissemination of this draft CEP for comment, we will also solicit from CBOs that serve DVCs whether they have an interest and availability to take on leadership roles as envisioned by the CPUC. These roles may include, but are not limited to, the following activities:

- Identify and leverage effective ways to engage with their communities on climate adaptation topics related to SCE's vulnerability assessment;
- Support information and education efforts on climate change and climate adaptation topics related to SCE's vulnerability assessment;
- Capture feedback received on the effectiveness of the engagement on the vulnerability assessments;
- Create a roster of key leaders in the community, including government, nonprofit, and community leaders, including contact information;
- Assemble a local steering community to help advise on and execute the selected engagement tactics; and
- Provide regular status reports on the progress of these activities.

## **X.**

### **EXTERNAL FEEDBACK ON CEP**

SCE engaged CBOs and community leaders in one-on-one and group meetings in the preparation of this CEP in a two-stage process: 1) engagement on the draft CEP outline, and 2) engagement on the draft CEP.

## **A. Feedback on Draft CEP Outline**

In January and February 2021, SCE reached out to a diverse group of CBOs, other local organizations, and leaders representing the interests of tribes; state and local governments; women; youth; faith-based organizations; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning (LGBTQ) people; BIPOC; fire safe councils; hospitals; universities and schools – all which are located in or operate in DVCs within SCE’s service area. They represent a spectrum of issue areas, including: clean energy, climate change, community development, economic growth, education, electric vehicles, social and environmental justice, environmental policy, environmental technology, health care, housing, and media. SCE contacted 164 CBOs, local organizations, and community leaders in its first step of engagement and captured feedback from 64. (See Appendix B for the full list of consulted stakeholders). Seven questions were asked of each of these stakeholders:

- 1) What’s the most important part of the outline?
- 2) Is there anything missing from this outline?
- 3) Who do you suggest we especially notify when the CEP draft is released?
- 4) For you, what are the engagement best practices you’d say are essential to reaching your communities?
- 5) Are there any metrics you would suggest SCE use to gauge the effectiveness of its community engagement on climate adaptation?
- 6) A two-part question on climate adaptation.
  - a. What types of information do you already have and/or would like to have about climate change impacts in your community?
  - b. What level of adaptive capacity does your community currently have?
- 7) Do you have any questions on this process?

Overall feedback on the draft CEP outline was that it was comprehensive and well-structured. In response to question 1, stakeholders in the various meetings identified all the main body sections of the draft outline as important, but the five highest ranking were:

- How input from CBOs and community leaders is included in the CEP – 15 mentions
- Community engagement frameworks, tactics and methodologies – 13 mentions
- How SCE intends to promote equity regarding actions it takes to increase the climate resilience of its infrastructure – 11 mentions
- How and which community-based organizations (CBOs) and community leaders serving DVCs were prioritized for initial engagement – 10 mentions
- How SCE will identify DVCs in its service area – 9 mentions

In response to Question 2, SCE received a number of suggestions for topics to include in the CEP such as SCE’s vision of success, next steps, and other key discussion topics (outside CEP scope). SCE noted the feedback but did not include it in the scope of the CEP. Additionally, SCE sought feedback from stakeholders on who to notify once the draft CEP is released for comment. Stakeholder recommendations include categories of community leaders and organizations, as well as specific organizations and governments. SCE intends to follow this guidance and contact with the recommended leaders and organizations when soliciting feedback on this draft CEP.

**B. Feedback on the Draft CEP**

SCE distributed the draft CEP to parties to the proceeding, CBOs, local organizations, other community representatives, and DACAG on April [X], 2021. SCE also conducted a presentation on our draft CEP at a DACAG meeting held on March 19, 2021.

**1. Parties to the Proceeding**

[Note: SCE will summarize the feedback it receives on the CEP]

**2. CBOs, Local Organizations, and Other Community Representatives**

[Note: SCE will summarize the feedback it receives on the CEP]

### 3. DACAG

SCE presented an overview of its Draft CEP at the March 19, 2021 Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG) meeting. In its feedback, the DACAG was primarily concerned with ensuring that CBOs play a key part in SCE's community engagement effort. DACAG members stated that any interested CBO should have an equal opportunity to serve in a leadership role, even if it requires capacity building, and that CBOs should take a lead role in setting up and running CEP meetings. DACAG members emphasized that adequate compensation for CBOs must be part of our plan. The D.18-12-015 "San Joaquin Valley Disadvantaged Communities Pilot Projects" Community Energy Navigator program was referenced as providing a model for CBO leadership and compensation. SCE was encouraged to partner with CBOs that represent different subsets of the DVC community (AFN, tribal, rural, urban, EJ, low-income) because these populations have unique communication characteristics that should be considered in our outreach.

DACAG members also recommended that SCE consider compensating community members in some fashion for their participation, because providing meaningful input on SCE's VA will entail a significant amount of effort on their part. SCE was also encouraged to allow adequate time to hear from the public during outreach meetings and not dominate the discussion. It was emphasized that SCE should strive for true equity in its outreach activities and achieve meaningful engagement, not just conduct a pro forma effort.

As part of the public participation portion of the meeting, SCE was reminded that many DVC residents do not have digital access and that SCE should incorporate outreach methods into our CEP that do not rely solely on digital means, to avoid excluding key parts of the DVC community.

[Note: SCE will summarize additional feedback it receives on the CEP]

## APPENDICES

## APPENDIX A

### Glossary of Terms

**Adaptive Capacity.** The California Public Utilities Commission defines Adaptive Capacity as:

The broad range of responses and adjustments to daily and extreme climate change-related events available to communities. This includes the ability and resources communities have to moderate potential damages, take advantage of opportunities, and cope with consequences.<sup>29</sup>

**CalEnviroScreen.**<sup>30</sup> CalEnviroScreen is a mapping tool developed by the California State Government that helps identify California communities that are most affected by many sources of pollution and where people are often especially vulnerable to pollution's effects. The tool uses environmental, health, and socioeconomic information to produce scores for every census tract in the state. The scores are mapped so that different communities can be compared. An area with a high score is one that experiences a much higher pollution burden than areas with low scores. CalEnviroScreen ranks communities based on data that are available from state and federal government sources.

**Census Tracts.**<sup>31</sup> Census tracts are small, relatively permanent statistical subdivisions of a county or equivalent entity that are updated by local participants prior to each decennial census as part of the Census Bureau's Participant Statistical Areas Program. The Census Bureau delineates census tracts in situations where no local participant existed or where state, local, or tribal governments declined to participate. The primary purpose of census tracts is to provide a stable set of geographic units for the presentation of statistical data.

Census tracts generally have a population size between 1,200 and 8,000 people, with an optimum size of 4,000 people. A census tract usually covers a contiguous area; however, the spatial size of census tracts varies widely depending on the density of settlement. Census tract boundaries are delineated with the intention of being maintained over a long time so that statistical comparisons can be made from census to census. Census tracts occasionally are split due to population growth or merged as a result of substantial population decline.

Census tract boundaries generally follow visible and identifiable features. They may follow nonvisible legal boundaries, such as minor civil division or incorporated place boundaries in some states and situations, to allow for census-tract-to-governmental-unit relationships where the governmental boundaries tend to remain unchanged between censuses. State and county boundaries always are census tract boundaries in the standard census geographic hierarchy. Tribal census tracts are a unique geographic entity defined within federally recognized American Indian reservations and off-reservation trust lands and can cross state and county boundaries.

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<sup>29</sup> D. 20-08-046, p. 16.

<sup>30</sup> More information about CalEnviroScreen is available on the website of the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment at: <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen>.

<sup>31</sup> U.S. Census Bureau [Glossary](#).

Tribal census tracts may be completely different from the census tracts and block groups defined by state and county.

**Climate adaptation.** The California Public Utility Commission defines climate adaptation for energy utilities in California as:

Climate change adaptation is adjustment in natural and human systems to a new or changing environment. Adaptation to climate change for energy utilities regulated by the Commission refers to adjustment in utility systems using strategic and data-driven consideration of actual or expected climatic impacts and stimuli or their effects on utility planning, facilities maintenance and construction, and communications, to maintain safe, reliable, affordable and resilient operations.<sup>32</sup>

**Disadvantaged Vulnerable Communities (DVCs).** The California Public Utility Commission defines Disadvantaged Vulnerable Communities (DVC) as

...[C]ommunities in the 25% highest scoring census tracts according to the most recent version of the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen), as well as all California tribal lands, census tracts with median household incomes less than 60% of state median income, and census tracts that score in the highest 5% of Pollution Burden within CalEnviroScreen, but do not receive an overall CalEnviroScreen score due to unreliable public health and socioeconomic data.<sup>33</sup>

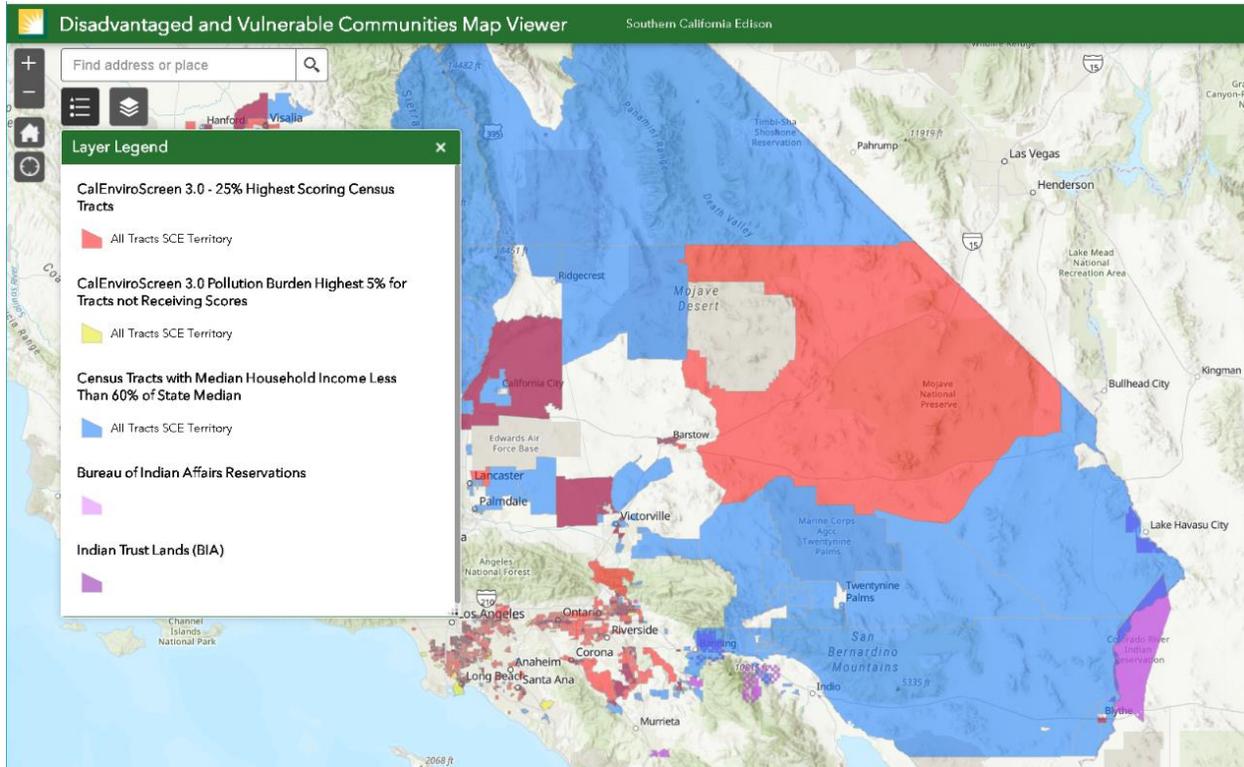
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<sup>32</sup> D.19-10-054 at Ordering Paragraph 1, p. 56.

<sup>33</sup> D.20-08-046, p. 119.

## APPENDIX B

### List of Disadvantaged Vulnerable Communities (DVCs) In SCE’s Service Area



Interactive map accessible on SCE’s webpage: [www.sce.com/about-us/environment/climate-adaptation](http://www.sce.com/about-us/environment/climate-adaptation)

DVC in SCE’s Service Area	County	Population Estimate
<b>Adelanto</b>	San Bernardino	31,765
<b>Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians</b>	Riverside	410
<b>Alhambra</b>	Los Angeles	83,089
<b>Apple Valley</b>	San Bernardino	69,135
<b>Artesia</b>	Los Angeles	16,522
<b>Baldwin Park</b>	Los Angeles	75,390
<b>Banning</b>	Riverside	29,603
<b>Barstow</b>	San Bernardino	22,639
<b>Beaumont</b>	Riverside	36,877
<b>Bell</b>	Los Angeles	35,477
<b>Bell Gardens</b>	Los Angeles	42,072

<b>Bellflower</b>	Los Angeles	76,616
<b>Bishop</b>	Inyo	3,879
<b>Bishop Paiute Tribe</b>	Inyo	2,000
<b>Bloomington</b>	San Bernardino	23,851
<b>Blythe</b>	Riverside	20,817
<b>Bridgeport Indian Colony</b>	Mono	120
<b>Buena Park</b>	Orange	80,530
<b>Cabazon</b>	Riverside	3,266
<b>Caliente</b>	Kern	1,019
<b>California City</b>	Kern	14,120
<b>California Hot Springs</b>	Tulare	37
<b>Camarillo</b>	Ventura	65,201
<b>Cantil</b>	Kern	22
<b>Carson</b>	Los Angeles	91,714
<b>Cathedral City</b>	Riverside	51,200
<b>Chemehuevi Indian Tribe</b>	San Bernardino	700
<b>Chino</b>	San Bernardino	77,983
<b>Colorado River Indian Tribes</b>	San Bernardino; Riverside	4,277
<b>Commerce</b>	Los Angeles	12,823
<b>Compton</b>	Los Angeles	96,455
<b>Corona</b>	Riverside	152,374
<b>Costa Mesa</b>	Orange	109,960
<b>Covina</b>	Los Angeles	47,796
<b>Cudahy</b>	Los Angeles	23,805
<b>Delano</b>	Kern	53,041
<b>Desert Hot Springs</b>	Riverside	25,938
<b>Downey</b>	Los Angeles	111,772
<b>Duarte</b>	Los Angeles	21,321
<b>Earlimart</b>	Tulare	8,537
<b>Earp</b>	San Bernardino	1,601
<b>East Los Angeles</b>	Los Angeles	124,007
<b>El Monte</b>	Los Angeles	113,475
<b>El Segundo</b>	Los Angeles	16,654
<b>Farmersville</b>	Tulare	10,588
<b>Florence-Graham</b>	Los Angeles	63,393
<b>Fontana</b>	San Bernardino	196,069
<b>Frazier Park</b>	Kern	2,691
<b>Fullerton</b>	Orange	135,161
<b>Garden Grove</b>	Orange	170,883
<b>Gardena</b>	Los Angeles	58,829
<b>Hacienda Heights</b>	Los Angeles	54,038
<b>Hanford</b>	Kings	53,967
<b>Hawaiian Gardens</b>	Los Angeles	14,254

<b>Hawthorne</b>	Los Angeles	84,293
<b>Helendale</b>	San Bernardino	5,849
<b>Hemet</b>	Riverside	78,657
<b>Hesperia</b>	San Bernardino	90,173
<b>Highgrove</b>	Riverside	5,786
<b>Highland</b>	San Bernardino	53,104
<b>Huntington Beach</b>	Orange	189,992
<b>Huntington Park</b>	Los Angeles	58,114
<b>Industry</b>	Los Angeles	219
<b>Inglewood</b>	Los Angeles	109,673
<b>Irvine</b>	Orange	212,375
<b>Irwindale</b>	Los Angeles	1,422
<b>Isla Vista</b>	Santa Barbara	27,707
<b>Joshua Tree</b>	San Bernardino	7,414
<b>Jurupa Valley</b>	Riverside	95,004
<b>La Habra</b>	Orange	60,239
<b>La Mirada</b>	Los Angeles	48,527
<b>La Puente</b>	Los Angeles	39,816
<b>Laguna Hills</b>	Orange	30,344
<b>Laguna Woods</b>	Orange	16,192
<b>Lake Elsinore</b>	Riverside	51,821
<b>Lakewood</b>	Los Angeles	80,048
<b>Lancaster</b>	Los Angeles	156,633
<b>Landers</b>	San Bernardino	2,982
<b>Lawndale</b>	Los Angeles	32,769
<b>Lindsay</b>	Tulare	11,768
<b>Loma Linda</b>	San Bernardino	23,261
<b>Long Beach</b>	Los Angeles	462,257
<b>Lucerne Valley</b>	San Bernardino	5,811
<b>Lynwood</b>	Los Angeles	69,772
<b>Maywood</b>	Los Angeles	27,395
<b>MC Farland</b>	Kern	12,707
<b>Menifee</b>	Riverside	77,519
<b>Mojave</b>	Kern	4,238
<b>Monrovia</b>	Los Angeles	36,590
<b>Montclair</b>	San Bernardino	36,664
<b>Montebello</b>	Los Angeles	62,500
<b>Monterey Park</b>	Los Angeles	60,269
<b>Moreno Valley</b>	Riverside	193,365
<b>Morongo Band of Mission Indians</b>	Riverside	996
<b>Newberry Springs</b>	San Bernardino	2,895
<b>Norwalk</b>	Los Angeles	105,549
<b>Nuevo</b>	Riverside	7,033
<b>Ontario</b>	San Bernardino	163,924

<b>Orange</b>	Orange	134,616
<b>Oxnard</b>	Ventura	197,899
<b>Palm Desert</b>	Riverside	48,445
<b>Palm Springs</b>	Riverside	44,552
<b>Palmdale</b>	Los Angeles	152,750
<b>Paramount</b>	Los Angeles	54,098
<b>Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians</b>	Riverside	467
<b>Perris</b>	Riverside	68,386
<b>Pico Rivera</b>	Los Angeles	62,942
<b>Pixley</b>	Tulare	3,310
<b>Placentia</b>	Orange	50,533
<b>Pomona</b>	Los Angeles	149,058
<b>Porterville</b>	Tulare	54,165
<b>Rancho Cucamonga</b>	San Bernardino	165,269
<b>Redlands</b>	San Bernardino	68,747
<b>Rialto</b>	San Bernardino	99,171
<b>Ridgecrest</b>	Kern	27,616
<b>Rosamond</b>	Kern	18,150
<b>Rosemead</b>	Los Angeles	53,764
<b>Rowland Heights</b>	Los Angeles	48,993
<b>San Bernardino</b>	San Bernardino	209,924
<b>San Fernando</b>	Los Angeles	23,645
<b>San Gabriel</b>	Los Angeles	39,718
<b>San Jacinto</b>	Riverside	44,199
<b>San Manuel Band of Mission Indians</b>	San Bernardino	200
<b>Santa Ana</b>	Orange	324,528
<b>Santa Fe Springs</b>	Los Angeles	16,223
<b>Santa Monica</b>	Los Angeles	89,736
<b>Santa Paula</b>	Ventura	29,321
<b>Seal Beach</b>	Orange	24,168
<b>Signal Hill</b>	Los Angeles	11,016
<b>Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians</b>	Riverside	522
<b>South El Monte</b>	Los Angeles	20,116
<b>South Gate</b>	Los Angeles	94,396
<b>Springville</b>	Tulare	934
<b>Stanton</b>	Orange	38,186
<b>Strathmore</b>	Tulare	2,819
<b>Temple City</b>	Los Angeles	35,558
<b>Timbisha Shoshone Tribe</b>	Inyo	124
<b>Tipton</b>	Tulare	2,543
<b>Torrance</b>	Los Angeles	145,538
<b>Tulare</b>	Tulare	59,278
<b>Tule River Tribe</b>	Tulare	1,720
<b>Twentynine Palms</b>	San Bernardino	25,048

<b>Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians</b>	San Bernardino; Riverside	No Data
<b>Upland</b>	San Bernardino	73,732
<b>Utu Utu Gwaitu Paiute Tribe</b>	Mono	84
<b>Ventura</b>	Ventura	106,433
<b>Victorville</b>	San Bernardino	115,903
<b>Visalia</b>	Tulare	124,442
<b>Weldon</b>	Kern	2,642
<b>West Athens</b>	Los Angeles	9,706
<b>West Covina</b>	Los Angeles	106,098
<b>West Hollywood</b>	Los Angeles	34,399
<b>Westminster</b>	Orange	89,701
<b>Westmont</b>	Los Angeles	35,266
<b>White Water</b>	Riverside	859
<b>Whittier</b>	Los Angeles	85,331
<b>Willowbrook</b>	Los Angeles	22,811
<b>Wofford Heights</b>	Kern	2,200
<b>Woodlake</b>	Tulare	7,279
<b>Yucaipa</b>	San Bernardino	51,367
<b>Yucca Valley</b>	San Bernardino	20,700

APPENDIX C

List of Organizations Consulted on Draft CEP Outline

AB 617 – San Bernardino/Muscoy Committee	Kern Fire Safe Council
Adventist Health Delano & Adventist Health Tulare	Liberty Hill Foundation
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Local Government Commission
Agua Dulce Women’s Club	Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator
American Lung Association	Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
Breathe Southern California (formerly BREATHE LA)	Morongo Tribe
Building Resilient Communities	New Life Christian Church
Business Resource Group	Nonprofit Finance Fund
California Contract Cities Association	Ojai Valley Fire Safe Council
Center for Asian Americans United for Self-Empowerment	Orenda Education
Climate Resolve	Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment
Coachella Valley Economic Partnership	PIH Health
Coalition for Clean Air	San Bernardino County
Communities for a Better Environment	San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization
Community Climate Connection	Senator Ben Allen’s Office
Community Environmental Council	South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Congregations Organized for Prophetic Engagement	Southeast Community Development Corporation
CPUC Disadvantaged Advisory Group	Southern California Association of Governments
CPUC Low Income Oversight Board	Speech and Language Development Center
East Yard Communities For Environmental Justice	The Dorsey Group
EV Nirvana	The Greenlining Institute
Faith and Community Empowerment (formerly Korean Churches for Community Development)	Today’s Woman Foundation
Faith Com Inc. (FCI) Management	Tule River Tribe
Governor’s Office of Planning and Research	UCLA Climate Research Symposium
Grid Alternatives	Ujima Housing Corporation
High Sierra Energy Foundation	Valley Clean Air Now
Hispanic Access Foundation	Village Solutions Foundation
Hope In Christ Community Church	WampWorx Consulting
Independent Cities Association	Western Riverside Council of Government
Inland Action, Inc.	Westside Cities Council of Governments
Inland Empire Community Newspapers	Young Visionaries Youth Leadership Academy
Keep It Green Technologies	