

Lenzi, Chelsea

From: Michael Chiacos <mchiacos@cecmail.org>
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2018 1:10 PM
To: Wolf, Janet; Williams, Das; Hartmann, Joan; Lavagnino, Steve; Adam, Peter; sbcob
Cc: Watkins, Ashley; Cregar, Jennifer; Litten, Jefferson; Sigrid Wright
Subject: Letter to Board of Supervisors, Energy and Climate Action Plan Update
Attachments: County SB ECAP 2017 Progress Report - Community Environmental Council .pdf

Honorable Supervisors,

Please see the attached letter from the Community Environmental Council regarding the Energy and Climate Action Plan Update. We support staff's recommendations and urge a new target of 50% reductions from 1990 levels by 2030.

Best regards,

-Michael

Michael Chiacos

Director of Energy and Climate Programs

Community Environmental Council

(805) 963-0583 ext. 105

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

Community Environmental Council creates regional solutions to climate change.



Board of Directors

President

Laura Capps

Vice President

Jordan benShea

Treasurer

Karl Hutterer

Secretary

John H. Steed

Members At-Large

Catherine Brozowski

Jeff Carmody

Adam Green

Bruce Kendall

Kim Kimbell

Charles A Newman

Recent Past Presidents

Dennis Allen

Dave Davis

Ivor John

Marc McGinnes - Emeritus

Paul Relis - Emeritus

Selma Rubin - In Memoriam

CEO/Executive Director

Sigrid Wright

Partnership Council

Megan Birney

Christine DeVries

Neil Dipaola

Nadra Ehrman

Matt Gries

Bryan Henson

Dana Jennings

Laura McGlothlin

Russ McGlothlin

Dawn Mitcham

Perrin Pellegrin

Adam Rhodes

Missy Robertson

Stan Roden

Bret A. Stone

Jacob Tell

December 10th, 2018

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

105 E. Anapamu St, Suite 407

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Energy and Climate Action Plan 2017 Progress Report

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

The Community Environmental Council has reviewed the Santa Barbara County Energy and Climate Action Plan 2017 Progress Report and the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Inventory Update and Forecast. We were disappointed to see that despite the efforts of County staff and community groups, greenhouse gas emissions in the unincorporated County of Santa Barbara have increased by 14% above the 2007 baseline inventory.

This growth in GHG emissions is contrary to statewide trends, which show GHG declines since 2007. In fact, the State met their 2020 GHG goal four years early in 2016. While the County's "Energy and Climate Action Plan 2016 Progress Report" showed a 14% drop between 2007 and 2015, this new report shows a 14% **increase** in emissions between 2007 and 2016. Given that population has increased only 9% since the baseline inventory in 2007, the results are surprising and concerning, and prompted us to inquire with County staff as to whether there had been a change in accounting methodology.

County staff has informed us that there were only minor changes in methodology and that these results are valid. **Given the sudden increase in GHG emissions, we request that staff investigate why the County of Santa Barbara's trends vary drastically from statewide trends, and conduct detailed analysis that answer the following questions:**

- What factors can explain why the results between 2015 and 2016 are so varied?
- What factors can explain why commercial energy use is up 35%, industrial energy use up 20%, and transportation emissions are up 12% since 2007?

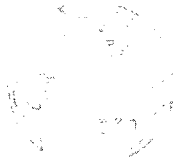
In addition, CEC supports setting an increased target of a 50% reduction from 1990 levels by 2030, and develop big bold strategies to get there, such as:



- A goal of **100% renewable energy by 2022** – The County of Ventura and Cities of Ventura, Thousand Oaks, Oxnard and Ojai all have joined Clean Power Alliance, and set 100% renewable energy as the default, so will mostly hit this goal in 2019. The County should move forward with Community Choice Energy, either developing their own program or joining Clean Power Alliance and Monterey Bay Community Power and set 100% renewable defaults. More information can be found in Appendix A.
- A goal of **20% electric vehicles by 2030**. California has set a goal for 5 million electric vehicles by 2030, which equates to about 12.5% of EVs on road. The County should set a target of 20% EVs by 2030, and set EV purchasing targets for the County's 1,600 vehicle fleet, as well as install workplace charging to help the County's 4,000 employees commute in EVs. More information can be found in Appendix B.
- **Incorporate carbon sequestration and healthy soils practices** as voluntary, preferred Best Management Practices for public and private land in the CAP. Specifically, include the following language in the Climate Action Plan:

“The County supports the efforts of Santa Barbara County farmers to implement on-farm practices that help to address GHG emissions and improve soil health, consistent with County policies found in the Countywide Plan and other County directives. The County supports voluntary best management practices for agriculture, as seen in Appendix D, when feasible. This may include but is not limited to adding locally produced compost to the soil, using no-till and reduced-till practices, efficiently using organic fertilizers, reducing fossil fuel use in agricultural equipment, using cover crops in orchards, using biochar in soils, planting hedgerows, and conserving or restoring natural vegetation, including stream restoration.

- Establish a **local benchmarking ordinance** that expands the reach of AB 802 from all buildings over 50,000 square feet to all buildings over 20,000 square feet, including requirements for energy audits and energy efficiency upgrades for facilities that with poor energy performance, including natural gas measures. This measure will target energy usage in commercial facilities and create transparency for commercial tenants. Examples can be seen in Appendix E.
- Increase the goal from 25% to **40% for reduction in energy use in government operations** by 2030. Prioritizing energy efficiency in the County's own facilities is a powerful example to the community. Projects need to move forward quickly to meet this goal because of the delay in



Community
Environmental
Council

26 West Anapamu St., 2nd Floor, Santa Barbara, CA 93101
tel: 805.963.0583 fax: 805.962.9080 • www.cecsb.org

government contracting to execute contracts. By putting out bids for the Foster Road and Calle Real campuses, the County can create momentum for these projects now.

- A goal of **20% growth in local solar projects every year**. The growth in renewable energy will support the region's grid resiliency in addition to the climate goals. The County's Clean Energy Roadmap will identify opportunities for solar projects and implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sigrid Wright'.

Sigrid Wright
Executive Director/CEC



Appendix A: 100% Renewable Energy Goal by 2022

The Cities of Santa Barbara and Goleta currently have set 100% Renewable Energy by 2030 goals. The County of Ventura and the Cities of Ventura, Thousand Oaks, Oxnard and Ojai all have joined Clean Power Alliance, and recently set 100% renewable energy as the default energy selection, so will mostly achieve this goal in 2019.

As our neighboring jurisdictions have shown a 100% Renewable Energy Goal is simple and easy to achieve, the County of Santa Barbara should move forward with Community Choice Energy by 2022. The County could develop own program or join Clean Power Alliance and Monterey Bay Community Power and then set 100% renewable default tiers by 2022.

Appendix B: 20% Electric Vehicles Goal by 2030

California's electric vehicle goal is for 5 million electric vehicles by 2030, which equates to about 12.5% of EVs on road. The County should set a community goal of 20% EVs throughout the unincorporated County by 2030, when they will also be powered mostly by renewable energy.

This goal is achievable as recent California new vehicles sales have passed 10% electric vehicles, 2018 EV growth in California is up more than 75% year over year, and Santa Barbara County is an early adopter region.

The County should lead by example by setting EV purchasing targets for the County's own 1,600 vehicle fleet, as well as install workplace charging to help the County's 4,000 employees commute in EVs.

Purchasing targets could follow the model that the State of California Department of General Services is currently exceeding, which include:

- 25% of new vehicle purchases being Zero Emission Vehicles by 2020
- 50% of new vehicle purchases being Zero Emission Vehicles by 2020

Additionally, the State DGS and other agencies such as the City of Santa Monica have internal policies to have the default vehicle purchase for each department be Zero Emission Vehicles (electric vehicle or hydrogen). If no suitable vehicle is available for the department, a plug-in hybrid must be chosen, then a hybrid vehicle. If no suitable green vehicles are available, the department must write a letter justifying why no green vehicles are available or will work for their department.

More information on the State's Green Fleet Initiative can be found at

<https://www.green.ca.gov/fleet/>



26 West Anapamu St., 2nd Floor, Santa Barbara, CA 93101
tel: 805.963.0583 fax: 805.962.9080 • www.cecsb.org

The County can also lead by example by building out workplace charging infrastructure at all employment sites and educating employees about how affordable EVs are. For example, over 1,000 County employees commute over 60 miles each work day. Many of these employees could likely save significant money by commuting in a 100+ mpge EV.

Here are some additional strategies the County could pursue to lead on electric vehicles.

- Build workplace charging at all employee sites. For employees who can't charge at home, due to living in multi-family housing or utilizing street parking, workplace charging is critical to being able to purchase an EV. Veloz has resources for workplace charging <http://www.veloz.org/documents/>
 - Southern California Edison's ChargeReady Program is a phenomenal opportunity to install workplace and fleet chargers - SCE pays to install the charger infrastructure and pays partial cost of charging stations <https://on.sce.com/chargeready>
 - Adding public charging and providing information on EVs and incentives could also help County of Santa Barbara residents choose to drive EVs.
- Consider developing shared fleet/employee chargers. Each charger could have a dedicated fleet EV space in front of it, with employee EV spaces on each side. The fleet car could charge at night, and the employee cars during the day, which would allow one charger to serve 3-5 EVs. High utilization of each charger greatly reduces the capital and monthly costs of chargers.
- Consider providing free or reduced-price charging to employees who commute in an electric vehicle.
- Consider providing preferred parking to employees who commute in an EV. At parking constrained sites where not all employees get parking passes, providing parking for EV drivers could be a welcome perk. For less constrained parking lots, providing front row parking for EV drivers (at all times, not just while charging) could be additional incentive and show that the County encourages environmentally friendly commuting.
- Promote incentives and EV literacy to employees. For example, the least expensive EV leases are available for no down, \$200/month, after incentives, and this low cost combined with gas savings can make an EV the most affordable vehicle an employee could drive. The County should also target low-moderate income County workers (under \$75,300 for a family of 4), who qualify for an increased California Clean Vehicle Rebate Project rebate, allowing them to lease an EV starting at \$100/month, no down.
- Host EV 101 lunch and learns for employees to learn about different EVs available, incentives, and more information. ElectricDrive805, the regional EV readiness coalition offers EV 101 lunch and learns and webinars for large employers. www.ElectricDrive805.org (website launching soon)



Appendix C: GHG Benefits and Co-Benefits of Carbon Farming Practices
Source: San Diego Food System Alliance

TABLE 1:
Carbon farming practices: GHG reduction benefits and co-benefits

Carbon Farming Practice	GHG Reduction (MTCO₂e/acre/yr)*	Co-benefits
Compost (C:N>11) on grazed grassland (rangeland)	4	Improved forage yields and nutritional content; increased soil water holding capacity, infiltration, & percolation; improved drought tolerance; reduced agricultural runoff; reduced landfill
Compost (C:N>11) on perennial cropland (orchards)	5	Yield improvements; increased soil water holding capacity, infiltration & percolation; reduced storm water & agricultural runoff; reduced landfill
Riparian Restoration	2	Decrease storm water and agricultural runoff, nutrient pollution, stream erosion; improve stream water quality; increase groundwater recharge; increase nutrient cycling; attract pollinators & natural pest control; provide native species habitat connectivity.
Mulch (orchard, row crops)	.2	Reduced irrigation demand; orchard fungal disease reduction; increased drought resistance; increase infiltration & percolation; reduced erosion; reduce storm water runoff
Cover cropping with legumes (row crops)	.5	Improve surface water quality through reduced soil erosion; loosen compacted soil; increase soil porosity and infiltration; increase soil nutrients; reduce pests; biodiversity habitat; livestock feed
No-till or strip-till (row crops)	.2	Improve surface water quality through reduced soil erosion; reduce evaporation, water demand;
Silvopasture (rangelands)	.7	Improve nutrient cycling; increase infiltration; moderate microclimate for livestock; additional fodder; biodiversity habitat



Appendix D - Soil Health and Conservation Practices
Source: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA

Practice	NRCS Code	Description/Benefits
Nutrient Management	590	Managing the amount, source, placement, form, and timing of the application of nutrients and soil amendments. BENEFITS: To budget and supply nutrients for plant production; properly use manure or organic by-products as a plant nutrient source; minimize agricultural nonpoint-source pollution of surface and groundwater resources; and maintain or improve the physical, chemical, and biological condition of soil.
Pasture and Hay Planting	512	Establishing native or introduced forage species. BENEFITS: Establish adapted and compatible species, varieties, or cultivars; improve or maintain livestock nutrition and/or health; extend the length of the grazing season; provide emergency forage production; and reduce soil erosion by wind and/or water.
Prescribed Grazing	528	The controlled harvest of vegetation with grazing or browsing animals, managed with the intent of achieving a specified objective. BENEFITS: Improve or maintain the health and vigor of selected plant(s) and maintain a stable and desired plant community; provide or maintain food, cover, and shelter for animals of concern; improve or maintain animal health and productivity; maintain or improve water quality and quantity; reduce accelerated soil erosion and maintain or improve soil conditions for the sustainability of the resource; and promote economic stability through grazing land sustainability.
Range Planting	550	Establishment of adapted perennial vegetation such as grasses, forbs, legumes, shrubs, and trees. BENEFITS: Restore a plant community similar to its historic climax or the desired plant community, provide or improve forages for livestock and/or browse or cover for wildlife, reduce erosion by wind and/or water, improve water quality and quantity, and increase carbon sequestration.
Residue Management - Seasonal	344	Managing the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and other plant residues on the soil surface during part of the year, while growing crops in a clean tilled seedbed. BENEFITS: Reduce sheet and rill erosion, reduce soil erosion from wind, and provide food and escape cover for wildlife. Allow timely cycling of high volumes of residue, and maintain or improve soil organic matter content and till.
Residue Management - Mulch Till	344	Managing the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and other plant residue on the soil surface year-round while growing crops where the entire field surface is tilled prior to planting. BENEFITS: Reduce sheet and rill erosion, reduce wind erosion, maintain or improve soil organic matter content and till, conserve soil moisture, and provide food and escape cover for wildlife.
Riparian Forest Buffer	391	An area of predominantly trees and/or shrubs located adjacent to and up-gradient from watercourses or water bodies. BENEFITS: Create shade to lower water temperatures and improve habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms; provide a source of detritus and large woody debris for fish and other aquatic organisms as well as riparian habitat and corridors for wildlife; reduce excess amounts of sediment, organic materials, nutrients, pesticides, and other pollutants in surface runoff; reduce excess nutrients and other chemicals in shallow groundwater flow; provide protection against scour erosion within the floodplain; restore natural riparian plant communities; moderate winter temperatures to reduce freezing of aquatic over-wintering habitats; and increase carbon storage.
Riparian Herbaceous Cover	390	Riparian areas are ecosystems that occur along watercourses or at the fringe of water bodies. Riparian herbaceous cover consists of grasses, grasslike plants, and forbs. PURPOSE: Riparian areas provide habitat (food, shelter, and water) for aquatic and terrestrial organisms; intercept direct solar radiation, create shade, and increase the depth-to-width ratio to help maintain or restore suitable water temperatures for fish and other aquatic organisms while providing a milder microclimate for wildlife; improve and protect water quality by reducing the amount of sediment and other pollutants, such as pesticides, organic materials, and nutrients in surface runoff as well as nutrients and chemicals in shallow groundwater flow; provide food, in the form of plant detritus, for aquatic insects, which are important food items for fish; help stabilize the channel bed and streambank; serve as corridors to provide landscape linkages between existing habitats; provide room for watercourses to establish geomorphic stability; and manage existing riparian herbaceous habitat to improve or maintain desired plant communities.
Practice	NRCS Code	Description/Benefits
Tree and Shrub Establishment	612	Establishing woody plants by planting seedlings or cuttings, direct seeding, or natural regeneration. BENEFITS: Establish woody plants for forest products, provide erosion control, enhance energy conservation, reduce air pollution by uptake of soil- and water-borne chemicals and nutrients, beautify an area, protect a watershed, provide wildlife habitat, treat waste, sequester carbon, and increase species diversity.
Vegetation Treatment Area	635	An area of permanent vegetation used for agricultural wastewater treatment. BENEFITS: Improve water quality by reducing loading of nutrients, organics, pathogens, and other contaminants associated with livestock, poultry, and other agricultural operations.
Windbreak/Shelterbelt	380	Linear plantings of single or multiple rows of trees or shrubs established for environmental benefits. BENEFITS: Reduce wind erosion, protect growing plants, provide shelter for structures and livestock, provide wildlife habitat, provide a tree or shrub product, provide living screens, improve aesthetics, improve irrigation efficiency.

Practice	NRCS Code	Description/Benefits
Conservation Crop Rotation	328	Growing crops in a recurring sequence on the same field. BENEFITS: Reduce sheet and rill erosion, reduce irrigation induced erosion, reduce soil erosion from wind, maintain or improve soil organic matter content, manage deficient or excess plant nutrients, improve water use efficiency, manage saline seeps, manage plant pests (weeds, insects, diseases), provide food for domestic livestock, and provide food and cover for wildlife.
Cover Crop	340	Grasses, legumes, forbs, or other herbaceous plants established for seasonal cover and conservation purposes. BENEFITS: Reduce erosion from wind and water, increase soil organic matter, manage excess nutrients in the soil profile, promote biological nitrogen fixation, increase biodiversity, provide weed suppression, provide supplemental forage, and manage soil moisture.
Access Control	472	The temporary or permanent exclusion of animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment from an area. BENEFITS: Achieve and maintain desired resource conditions by monitoring and managing the intensity of use by animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment in coordination with the application of the schedule of practices, measures, and activities specified in the conservation plan.
Conservation Cover	327	Establishing and maintaining permanent vegetative cover to protect soil and water resources. BENEFITS: Reduce soil erosion and sedimentation, improve water quality, and enhance wildlife habitat.
Critical Area Planting	342	Planting vegetation, such as trees, shrubs, vines grasses, or legumes, on highly erodible or critically eroding areas (does not include tree planting mainly for wood products). BENEFITS: To stabilize the soil, reduce damage from sediment and runoff to downstream areas, and improve wildlife habitat and visual resources.
Field Border	386	A strip of permanent vegetation established at the edge or around the perimeter of a field. PURPOSE: Reduce erosion from wind and water, protect soil and water quality, manage harmful insect populations, provide wildlife food and cover, increase carbon storage in biomass and soils, and improve air quality.
Filter Strip	393	A strip or area of vegetation for removing sediment, organic matter, and other pollutants from runoff and wastewater. This standard establishes the minimally acceptable requirements for design and operation and maintenance of filter strips for removing sediment, organic matter, and other pollutants from runoff or wastewater. BENEFITS: To remove sediment and other pollutants from runoff or wastewater by filtration, deposition, infiltration, absorption, adsorption, decomposition, and volatilization, thereby reducing pollution and protecting the environment.
Grassed Waterway	412	A natural or constructed channel that is shaped or graded to required dimensions and established in suitable vegetation for the stable conveyance of runoff. This standard applies to natural or constructed channels that are to be established in vegetation and used for water disposal. Grassed waterways with stone centers are also included. BENEFITS: To convey runoff from terraces, diversions, or other water concentrations without causing erosion or flooding and improve water quality.
Hedgerow Planting	422	Establishment of dense vegetation in a linear design to achieve a natural resource conservation purpose. BENEFITS: Food, cover, and corridors for terrestrial wildlife; food and cover for aquatic organisms that live in watercourses with full bank widths of less than 5 feet; living fences, boundary delineations, contour guidelines, screens, and barriers to noise, odors, and dust; and improvement of landscape appearance.
Mulching	484	Applying plant residues or other suitable materials to the soil surface. BENEFITS: To conserve moisture, prevent surface compaction or crusting, reduce runoff and erosion, modify surface temperatures, control weeds, help establish plant cover, and reduce particulate matter emissions into the air.

Appendix E- Examples of Benchmarking Ordinances in California

City of Oakland: https://www.cityofberkeley.info/benchmarking_buildings/

(Screen Shot below)

City of Los Angeles:

https://www.betterbuildingsla.com/images/content/EBEWE_Ordinance_Brochure.pdf



search:

GO

ENERGY & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Office of Energy & Sustainable Development (OESD)

ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager Energy Benchmarking

Berkeley Annual Benchmark Reporting Deadline

Building Size (sq ft)	Deadline
50,000+	7/1/2018
25,000-49,999	7/1/2019

BESO Ordinance Requirement (Bldgs 25,000 ft²<):

The Building Energy Saving Ordinance (BESO) requires annual building energy benchmarking through Energy Star Portfolio Manager as well as an energy assessment for all large buildings in Berkeley, phased-in by size. For all BESO requirements, please visit the [BESO Large Building Requirements page](#).

AB802 California State Law Benchmarking Requirement (Bldgs 50,000 ft²<)

AB802 requires benchmarking data to be submitted to the California Energy Commission by June 1st, 2018 for all buildings over 50,000 ft² with no residential accounts. By complying with the BESO City ordinance, you will also satisfy the state requirement, as the City will submit your data in approved format to the State.

Why Benchmark?

Benchmarking is the first step towards making buildings more energy efficient. Through tracking building energy performance, you can identify ways to lower energy use and associated costs.

Benefits:

- Inform investment decisions
- Identify opportunities to lower energy costs
- Buildings with a verified benchmark score of 80 or above are exempt from assessment requirements
- Help Berkeley meet our community climate action goals